



Following is an update on the progress of The "CARE" Bill H.R. 3652.

The number of co-sponsors for the bill is currently at 22, including Rep. Ed Markey and Rep. Richard Neal from Massachusetts. Although the number of co-sponsorships are down in this Congress, please don't get discouraged as there is still great interest on Capitol Hill for this Bill.

The feeling is that Congress has been assaulted with Healthcare Reform legislation leaving other health care bills with little additional attention by them with the expectation that some, like ours, will be attached to the Reform bill. It's likely there will be a genuine debate over the Healthcare Reform bill, our message to Congress still needs to be that **The "CARE" Bill saves money.**

Our ASRT lobbyist, Dave Goch has spoken with Rep. Xavier Becerra (CA), who sits on the Ways and Means Committee, and Rep. Becerra has agreed to reach out to committee members. Dave also spoke to Hill Thomas, Rep. Barrow's health (LA) Legislative Assistant and Hill will push the Energy & Commerce Committee.

Josh Cooper, the Government Relations director for the ACR, has indicated that the ACR should be willing to be more aggressive in helping with The "CARE" Bill. **So if anyone has a connection with a radiologist especially any that have influence with the ACR (ex.) Dr. Thrall, please ask them to call Josh Cooper and get the ACR behind The "CARE" Bill.** All of this is a big boost for us!

In the Senate....Sen. Enzi, a Republican, didn't get the opportunity to offer The "CARE" Bill to the Finance Committee because amendments weren't being considered. This was a blow to our strategy in the Senate, so now we're looking for a Democrat that can take Sen. Kennedy's place in advocating for our cause. That's where **Sen. Stabenow (MI) comes in...she sits on the Finance Committee, has other healthcare bills on the table and is willing to work for the success of The "CARE" Bill.**

Our next Mission:

To create a buzz that will get The "CARE" Bill in the House Healthcare Reform proposal. *Please make calls or send emails to your representative and/or their LA and stress that The "CARE" Bill **SAVES MONEY**, is **NON-CONTROVERSIAL** and **HAS SUPPORT** of radiologic technologists and other members of Congress!!!* We want The "CARE" Bill included in Healthcare Reform and we need to help Rep. Barrow do that.

Please Call or email your Representative or LA today and ask them to call Hill Thomas in Rep. Barrow's office and let Hill know they support Rep. Barrow's decision to put The "CARE" Bill in Healthcare Reform.

If you're not sure who your representative is, please go to: [:http://www.yourcongressyourhealth.org](http://www.yourcongressyourhealth.org) to enter your zip code.

Reps. in Massachusetts and the contact person in their office:

John Olver — contact Lisa Wiehl

Richard Neal — contact Ann Jablon-----call to thank him for his support & co-sponsorship

James McGovern —contact Lisa Salerno

Barney Frank — contact Diego Sanchez

Niki Tsongas — contact Aparna Krishnaswamy

John Tierney — contact Rachel Evans

Edward Markey — contact Binta Beard-----call to thank him for his support & co-sponsorship

Michael Capuano — contact Heather Gasper

Stephen Lynch — contact Peter Sally

William Delahunt —contact Davida Walsh

Remember:

- You can also call the D.C. Capitol Hill switchboard at 202-224-3121 and they can transfer you to your legislator"s office.
- You can continue to monitor the status of the Bill and cosponsors at Thomas.gov or the [ASRT Website](#).
- The 12th RT in DC program is on March 7-9, 2010. It is very important that we have people attend again this year to get the message out to the congressional offices that we need their support. Attendance has always been very good, especially from Massachusetts. We need Technologists who are **really interested** in dedicating themselves to this cause. Please consider attending **ONLY** if you would like to contribute in Washington and make a difference in our profession.

Thanks for your help once again, together we will make The "CARE" Bill a reality one day very soon.

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