

February CAHU Newsletter

Legislative Update

Two words can be used to sum up the game changer that took place last month regarding health reform: Scott Brown. The Massachusetts Senator's win signaled a significant change in the trajectory of health reform. Brown ran on the platform of being a "no" vote for the legislation as it stood, as well as breaking the 60 vote "lock" the Democrats had on the United States Senate. So now, despite some Democrats' assertion otherwise, most are signaling that it's back to "square one" with health reform. How Congress will move forward is unknown at the moment.

Many in our industry credit the outcome to the enormous "grassroots" lobbying efforts of NAHU and other industry associations. NAHU spends lots of money supporting candidates such as Scott Brown, whose position on health reform appears to mirror that of NAHU.

So this year's NAHU Capitol Conference taking place March 8-10 in Washington, DC will be all the more interesting with the legislative landscape appearing to be a clear slate, with outcomes yet unknown. Representing CAHU in this year's conference is: Wes Grigston, Kathleen Thomas, Brook Seaford, Nat Smith, Kay Schmitt, Eric Foster, Bruce Frizen, Sherry Crawford, Lindsay Norvell and Suzanne Proctor.

Not only will we be learning more about the various scenarios involving health reform and any future paths legislation could take, we will also be meeting with our area representatives. We look forward to sharing what we learn upon our return!