



Dear ENT Advocacy Network Member:

May 3, 2019

Legislative and political activity directly affects our practices and our patients. As a leading advocate for otolaryngology-head and neck surgery, we hope you enjoy reading this edition of The ENT Advocate, your premier source of advocacy information for the specialty!

## Lead Story

### AAO-HNS Physician Leaders Advocate for the Specialty on Capitol Hill

As part of the AAO-HNS/F 2019 Leadership Forum & BOG Spring Meeting, physician leaders from the AAO-HNS visited more than 25 House of Representative and Senate offices on Monday, April 29. The meetings focused on policy issues of critical importance to the specialty, including scope of practice, “surprise” medical billing, prior authorization, and comprehensive tobacco control legislation.

## Action Requested

### Become an Advocate for the Specialty

In today’s regulatory and legislative climate, it’s vital for AAO-HNS members to use their clinical expertise to advocate on behalf of the specialty. Effective grassroots advocacy starts with you! AAO-HNS members can reinforce the Academy’s legislative efforts on Capitol Hill by calling, emailing, and tweeting their members of Congress. This additional layer of constituent-based outreach amplifies the specialty’s position when Congress debates major healthcare issues. The AAO-HNS provides numerous opportunities for members to influence federal and state healthcare policies, communicate with elected officials, and advocate for patients. [Check out the Academy Passport Program](#) to learn more about how you can become an advocate for the specialty.

### ENT PAC Exceeds Goal at 2019 Leadership Forum

Thanks to the generous contributions of our members, ENT PAC exceeded its fundraising goal at the AAO-HNS/F 2019 Leadership Forum & BOG Spring Meeting, raising nearly \$13,000. To help ensure the strength of the Academy’s political programs, [make or increase your 2019 contribution to ENT PAC today!](#)\*

## Legislative & Political Reports

### AAO-HNS Requests Congressional Support for GME Funding Increase

The AAO-HNS [joined more than 65 organizations](#) in urging members of the U.S. House of Representatives and Senate to support and co-sponsor “The Resident Physician Shortage Reduction Act of 2019” (H.R. 1763/S. 348). This bipartisan legislation would provide a responsible increase in Medicare support for graduate medical education (GME) to address the national physician workforce shortage.

### April 2019 Edition of the State-mENT Now Available

[The State-mENT](#) is an “at a glance” one-page resource outlining the Academy’s ongoing state legislative activity. The AAO-HNS works closely with its volunteer physician State Trackers and state otolaryngology

societies to advocate for the specialty at the state level. [Sign up to be a State Tracker](#) and become part of the discussion!

### **AAO-HNS 2019 Federal and State Legislative Priorities**

The AAO-HNS is committed to the enactment of legislation that will strengthen the delivery of, and access to, quality healthcare. Learn more about [the federal and state legislative issues](#) that the AAO-HNS is monitoring in 2019.

### **First Quarter “Your PAC Dollars at Work” Report Now Available**

In an effort to provide more transparency and a greater understanding about how decisions are made regarding the specialty’s political action committee, last year ENT PAC launched a new report titled *Your PAC Dollars at Work*. ENT PAC is an invaluable tool that strengthens the Academy’s overall legislative advocacy efforts. [View the latest edition](#) summarizing ENT PAC activities during the first quarter of 2019.

Sincerely,

David Boisoneau, MD  
BOG Legislative Affairs Committee Chair  
and the AAO-HNS Advocacy Team

**For more information, contact [govtaffairs@entnet.org](mailto:govtaffairs@entnet.org).**

If you no longer wish to receive important legislative and political updates via The ENT Advocate, please reply to this email with CANCEL ADVOCATE in the subject line.

\*Contributions to ENT PAC are not deductible as charitable contributions for federal income tax purposes. Contributions are voluntary, and all members of the American Academy of Otolaryngology-Head and Neck Surgery have the right to refuse to contribute without reprisal. Federal law prohibits ENT PAC from accepting contributions from foreign nationals. By law, if your contributions are made using a personal check or credit card, ENT PAC may use your contribution only to support candidates in federal elections. All corporate contributions to ENT PAC will be used for educational and administrative fees of ENT PAC, and other activities permissible under federal law. Federal law requires ENT PAC to use its best efforts to collect and report the name, mailing address, occupation, and the name of the employer of individuals whose contributions exceed \$200 in a calendar year

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