



2010 Legislative Successes & Challenges

2010 MPA Legislative Successes

- Although many health care providers were cut by eight percent in 2010, MPA worked to successfully defeat proposed cuts to Medicaid fee-for-service dispensing fee for pharmacy providers.
- In February, MPA was successful in seeing Senate Bill 689, which extended the validity of a Schedule 2 controlled substance from 60 to 90 days from the date the prescription was issued, signed into law. The legislation also allowed more than one Schedule 2 controlled substance prescription to be written on a single prescription form.
- MPA was successful in pursuing the introduction of SB 1384, legislation which would require licensure of pharmacy technicians and certification.
- MPA was successful in pursuing the introduction of HB 5772, legislation that would regulate pharmacy benefits managers.
- Legislation was defeated that would have placed additional burdens on pharmacy providers by requiring photo identification prior to dispensing controlled substance prescriptions, as well as having required physicians to indicate on the prescription that they checked the MAPS program prior to writing controlled substances prescriptions. Pharmacists would have been prohibited from dispensing the controlled substance prescriptions without this documentation.
- MPA was successful in Michigan Medicaid reimbursing pharmacy providers for immunization-provided services.

2010 MPA Legislative Challenges

- MPA continues to work to rectify the differences in the definition of a prescription between the Public Health Code and the state tax code.
- Like other health care providers, pharmacy is challenged by the fiscal constraints of the state budget.
- MPA continues to look for a solution to the continued outsourcing of prescriptions and its negative impact on the Michigan economy, pharmacy providers and patients.
- Pharmacists are challenged by administrative rules that hold them accountable for other practitioners' failure to comply with appropriate prescribing regulations.
- MPA seeks to address pharmacist concerns related to the current Michigan Medical Marijuana program.
- MPA continues to target the vagueness of the role of pharmacy related to patient care within a medical home.
- Pharmacy is continually challenged by the increasing pharmacist surplus due to the growing number of schools of pharmacies nationally and the loss of pharmacist positions in Michigan.

2010 MPA Legislative Involvement

- MPA worked with the Michigan Council of Nurse Practitioners to increase their awareness and understanding of appropriate prescribing regulations.
- Association staff conducted law reviews for P4 student pharmacists at MPA's Annual Convention & Exposition and the University of Michigan.

- MPA worked with Michigan Association of Health Plans to develop an audit guidelines policy that was supported and adopted by participating MAHP health plans.
- MPA worked with the Southeast Michigan E-prescribing Initiative (SEMI) on numerous electronic prescription issues.
- MPA collaborated with other health care provider organizations on issues such as audits, e-prescribing, co-insurances and co-pays.
- Association staff provided comments and concerns to the Office of Financial and Insurance Regulation on the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan (BCBSM) Provider Class Plan.
- Association staff worked with Michigan Medicaid to change aggressive MAC pricing during the recent MAC manager change.
- MPA assisted the BCBSM provider class plan subgroup on several issues, including audits.
- MPA provided suggested changes in the Administrative Rules to the Board of Pharmacy Rules Committee.

2010 MPA Legislative and Advocacy Events

- PSI/Pharmacy PAC Town Hall meetings, Jan. 6, Grand Rapids; Jan. 12, Okemos; Jan. 20, Midland; Feb. 25, Detroit; and March 18, Traverse City
- Michigan Pharmacy PAC Luncheon, MPA Annual Convention & Exposition, Feb. 26, Detroit Marriott at the Renaissance Center, Detroit
- Legislative Day, March 24, Karoub Associates, Lansing
- Student Pharmacist Pharmacy Advocacy Program, June 17, Wayne State University, Detroit
- Michigan Pharmacy Foundation & Pharmacy PAC Annual Golf Classic, June 30, Eagle Eye Golf Club, Bath
- Pharmacy Day at the Capitol, Sept. 14, State Capitol Building, Lansing
- Pharmacy PAC Wine & Cheese Reception, Oct. 26, Fifth Third Building, Grand Rapids
- Diabetes Awareness Program, Nov. 9, State Capitol Building, Lansing

2010 MPA Legislative Advocacy By the Numbers

- 402** Number of legislator interactions and policy visits attributed to MPA legislative staff in 2010
- 56** Number of regulatory (Michigan Board of Pharmacy, Controlled Substance Advisory committee, Michigan Medicaid, etc.) meetings participated in by MPA legislative staff in 2010
- 1,520** Number of doors knocked by MPA legislative staff for pharmacy-friendly legislative candidates in 2010