




Congressional Community Pharmacy Coalition Members

By Michael F. Conlan

One of NCPA's continuing goals is to forge a "community pharmacy majority" in Congress—a tipping point of lawmakers who will advance and defend the legislative interests of the more than 23,000 neighborhood pharmacies and the patients who depend on them. With that in mind, the bipartisan Congressional Community Pharmacy Coalition was launched in the House of Representatives last fall.

The coalition's primary objective is to preserve patient access to community pharmacies by restoring fairness and pragmatism to a health care system that devalues these small business owners who often reside in underserved rural and urban communities. Its motto is, "Preserving patient access to America's most accessible health care professionals."

Bruce T. Roberts, RPh, NCPA executive vice president and CEO, said at the time, "The cavalry has arrived to restore the way community pharmacies ought to be treated. The Congressional Community Pharmacy Coalition has put partisanship aside to recognize that these small business owners are a critical cog in the wheel that keeps the American people healthy and our economy vibrant."

With Election Day (Nov. 4) fast approaching, here is a list of the coalition members. Make membership a factor as you weigh your choices in the voting booth. You also can check what representatives and senators voted with community to enact H.R.6331, the Medicare prompt pay, Medicaid cut delay, and DME competitive bidding delay legislation. You also can see who cosponsored the bills on NCPA's legislative agenda by visiting the Grassroots Activities section of www.ncpanet.org. 

Michael F. Conlan is editor of *America's Pharmacist*.

The coalition's co-chairs are:

Reps. Marion Berry (D-Ark.), Cathy McMorris Rodgers (R-Wash), Jerry Moran (R-Kan.), and Anthony Weiner (D-N.Y.). The coalition's other members include Reps. Robert Aderholt (R-Ala.), Michael Arcuri (D-N.Y.), John Barrow (D-Ga.), Roy Blunt (R-Mo.), John Boozman (R-Ark.), Rick Boucher (D-Va.), F. Allen Boyd (D-Fla.), Nancy Boyda (D-Kan.), Chris Carney (D-Pa.), Howard Coble (R-N.C.), Joe Courtney (D-Conn.), Robert Cramer (D-Ala.), Geoff Davis (R-Ky.), Lincoln Davis (D-Tenn.), Lloyd Doggett (D-Texas), Thelma Drake (R-Va.), Jo Ann Emerson (R-Mo.), Phil English (R-Pa.), Bob Etheridge (D-N.C.), Jeff Fortenberry (R-Neb.), Virginia Foxx (R-N.C.), Jim Gerlach (R-Pa.), Virgil Goode (R-Va.), Bob Goodlatte (R-Va.), Maurice Hinchey (D-N.Y.), Peter Hoekstra (R-Mich.), Tim Holden (D-Pa.), Walter Jones (R-N.C.), Nick Lampson (D-Texas), Frank LoBiondo (R-N.J.), Carolyn McCarthy (D-N.Y.), Mike McIntyre (D-N.C.), Charlie Melancon (D-La.), Solomon Ortiz (D-Texas), John Peterson (R-Pa.), David Price (D-N.C.), Ciro Rodriguez (D-Texas), Mike Rogers (R-Ala.), Mike Ross (D-Ark.), Linda Sanchez (D-Calif.), Stephanie Herseth Sandlin (D-S.D.), Peter Sessions (R-Texas), Mark Souder (R-Ind.), Zack Space (D-Ohio), Todd Tiahrt (R-Kan.) Greg Walden (R-Ore.), Tim Walz (D-Minn.), and Charles Wilson (D-Ohio).