



## **Heads Up October 2008**

**Dear NAHU State and Local Legislative Chairs,**

### **Legislative Report**

Attached, you will find a legislative report outlining the top issues NAHU has been following in Washington and in the states. Please use this report to give a brief update to your chapter at your next meeting or as a basis for a chapter newsletter article or e-mail communication. If you have any questions about NAHU's legislative involvement on the federal level, please do not hesitate to contact us!

### **October is Political Involvement Month**

As you know, the Presidential Election is in full swing, with a little more than four weeks until election day. This month, many of NAHU's member communications will focus on both the election and the importance of greater political involvement on the part of its members. One of the first things you will receive from NAHU with this focus is the October Issue of *HIU*, which includes a full report on NAHU's activities at both presidential nominating conventions, a comparison chart of national health care reform proposals, articles from both McCain and Obama's campaigns and more.

Don't forget to watch the upcoming Presidential debates on October 7 and October 15, as well as the Vice Presidential debate on October 2. The October 7 debate will be a town hall meeting, and voters who visit the WEB MD site can submit health care question ideas in advance at [www.webmd.com/election2008/default.htm](http://www.webmd.com/election2008/default.htm)

### **In District Meetings (again)**

We know August was a busy month, as many individuals tried to get their last squeeze out of summer. Thus, we understand that a lot of members were unable to discuss the value of the agent with their Congressmen, but don't worry—your legislators are on their way back to their home states! Although Congress has spent most of September in Washington, they will soon be adjourning and heading back home for the final election push of 2008. NAHU once again encourages its members—particularly state and local legislative chairs—to set up appointments with their legislators in their district offices. If you have already met with one of your Congressmen, use this recess as an opportunity to meet with another legislator from your state.

Remember, if you have a meeting scheduled during the upcoming Congressional recess, tell us by logging in the details at

<http://capwiz.com/nahu/lrm/feedback.tt?event=10981&mode=appointment>. Afterward, let us know how the meeting went with on the feedback forum at <http://capwiz.com/nahu/lrm/feedback.tt?event=10981>.

### **Website**

As always, the website is ever-changing and NAHU invites you to continually check out the improvements being made. The highlights page is constantly changing as various issues take center stage; NAHU's involvement in federal and state legislation constantly results in new information, position papers and other policy materials. Also, make sure to look at the grassroots page for more information on how to get NAHU members involved at every level of government, in any way possible. And finally, if you've missed any of NAHU's legislative e-mail newsletters, be sure to look at the updated Newsletter section for the most recent versions of *Washington Update*, *Hot Issues* and *Heads Up* e-mails!

### **Training Call Reminder**

We hope you've all been able to take advantage of NAHU's legislative training calls throughout the last few months, but if you've been unable to participate, don't worry. The material covered, along with a recording of the call, is available in the Legislative Tools section of our website. NAHU legislative training calls that cover state and federal issues occur every second Tuesday of the month at 1pm EST, so mark your calendars and keep a lookout for e-mails with the call-in information and slides.

NAHU held its second and final general training calls. If you were unable to make the calls, we urge you to look up the slides and recording on our website. The presentation is full of information about resources and tools available to you as a legislative chair.

All of NAHU's legislative calls have been a great success; thanks to everyone who has participated!