

2008 Advocacy Highlights

1.) Letters and Testimony to Members of Congress

In 2008, the ABC focused on four legislative issues: funding for the National Institutes of Health, stem cell research, mental health insurance parity, and chronic care. As such, the ABC's communication with Congress focuses on these legislative issues.

- February 19, 2008 Letter to Congress on Health Function 550 in the Budget
- March 12, 2008: The ABC exhibits at the Congressional Brain Injury Awareness Fair
- March 31, 2008 ABC Testimony to Congressional Appropriations Subcommittees
- September 16, 2008 CHF Letter to Congress on Continuing Resolution

2.) Legislative Updates

ABC believes in keeping our members updated on our key legislative issues as changes occur.

- January 22, 2008 Summary of FY 2008 Funding
- February 20, 2008 FY 2009 Funding Process Begins
- March 6, 2008 Mental Health Parity Legislation
- March 16, 2008 Specter-Harkin Amendment Passes Senate
- May 13, 2008 Sample Article on Legislative Alerts & Capwiz
- June 2, 2008 Supplemental Funding—NIH & NSF Included
- June 23, 2008 Mental Health Parity Article
- June 30, 2008 NIH FY 2009 Funding Situation
- July 14, 2008 Further Progress on Mental Health Parity
- July 28, 2008 Mental Health Parity
- August 2, 2008 ABC Announces Summer Advocacy Challenge

3.) Legislative Alerts

In 2008, the ABC reached out on seven occasions, asking its member organizations to activate their individual members on timely legislative issues.

March 6, 2008: Support NIH Funding

May 21, 2008: Contact Your Senators About NIH & NSF Funding

June 4, 2008: Support NIH & NSF Funding in Supplemental Bill

July 21, 2008: Ask Congress to Support NIH Emergency Supplemental Bill

August 11, 2008: Ask Congress to Support NIH Funding in Continuing Resolution

August 28, 2008: Support Legislation Eliminating Lifetime Insurance Caps

September 10, 2008: Reminder—Ask Congress to Support NIH Funding in Continuing Resolution

4.) News Items of Potential Interest

ABC seeks to circulate to our members news stories that related to science, health, or any of our key legislative issues

May 12, 2008 "Broken Pipeline" pdf & web site about the effects of dwindling science funding on young scientists was distributed

June 19, 2008 Summary of "Discussion of Health, Research & The Elections" a BIO Webcast was distributed

August 10, 2008 "Stem Cells Created for 10 Disorders"

September 23, 2008 "McCain Freeze Would Chill Science"