

Public Policy: Advocacy Efforts and Top Accomplishments 2020

Member Engagement

- ✓ Engaged 350 members throughout the course of the year
- ✓ Generated 38 letters to both Congress and the Administration
- ✓ Focused on member education during COVID-19, with CHIME holding 22 webinars on different policy topics drawing on average 100 attendees per webinar
- ✓ Led multiple workgroups over the span of more than 10 calls with CHIME members and leaders from policy steering committee on topics including electronic prescribing, interoperability and AI.

Connected Care

- ✓ Secured multiple extensions for numerous telehealth flexibilities under the pandemic through extensions of the public health emergency (PHE) during which these policies remain active
- ✓ Long-standing support of Federal Communication Commission's (FCC) telehealth effort resulted in \$550 million in funding and direct awards to multiple CHIME member organizations

Cybersecurity

- ✓ Following years of advocacy, [H.R. 7898](#) was passed by Congress giving credit to providers who use cybersecurity best practices and requiring the Office for Civil Rights (OCR) to reduce the length of audits
- ✓ AEHIS member selected as Chair of FCC's cyber hospital robocall working group
- ✓ Consulted by Senate Homeland Security Committee on cyber funding resulting in CHIME's statement being included in the record
- ✓ Led and obtained long-sought after policy of allowing cybersecurity donations – including some hardware – under the final Stark and Antikickback rules
- ✓ Secured exclusive briefing from government security leaders on imminent cyber-attacks targeting healthcare.

Patient ID

- ✓ Secured removal by House of Representatives of longstanding ban in Appropriations bill that prohibits federal spending on a national patient ID standard for the second year in a row.
- ✓ Engaged in member grassroots effort and co-founded new [coalition](#) to remove patient ID ban
- ✓ Conducted "[Virtual Hill Briefing](#)" featuring Rep. Bill Foster with 180+ people in attendance
- ✓ CHIME testified before ONC Working Group on Patient Identification and Matching &
- ✓ secured Rep. Foster as a witness

Privacy

- ✓ CHIME was the only healthcare provider organization consulted on bi-cameral privacy legislation

Interoperability

- ✓ Secured additional information blocking exceptions and scaled down definition of electronic health information (EHI) intended to ease provider burden in final ONC and CMS rules
- ✓ Requested and were granted extended compliance deadlines for both CMS and ONC interoperability rules

Opioids

- ✓ Historic passage of Jessie's Law aligning 42 CFR Part 2 consent policies with those of HIPAA under CARES Act