

## ABC Experts, Customers & PAC Leaders Join GA Team for Critical Drug Pricing Hill Meetings

Recently, **Barry Fortner**, ION member **Kashyap Patel, MD**, ABC-PAC Ambassador **Dina Gabriele** and **Carissa Nafziger** joined **Rita Norton** and **Brad Tallamy** for a marathon day of congressional meetings to express our serious concerns with a provision in the Prescription Drug Pricing Reduction Act of 2019, passed last Thursday by the **Senate Finance Committee (SFC)**, which would mandate bona fide service fees paid by manufacturers to wholesalers and group purchasing organizations based on percentage of sales and volume to be included in the Medicare Part B Average Sales Price (ASP) calculation. Given the severe effect this provision would have on ABC's business model, ABC's provider customer reimbursement and the efficiency of the healthcare supply chain, the ABC GA team quickly mobilized to meet with 17 House leadership and Senate Finance Committee members and staff, including:

- **House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA);**
- **SFC Chairman Chuck Grassley (R-IA) & SFC Ranking Member Ron Wyden (D-OR);**
- **SFC GOP members Rob Portman (R-OH), Mike Crapo (R-ID), John Thune (R-SD), Bill Cassidy (R-LA), John Cornyn (R-TX), Tim Scott (R-SC), Steve Daines (R-MT), Pat Toomey (R-PA), Todd Young (R-IN);**
- **SFC Dem members Bob Menendez (D-NJ), Catherine Cortez Masto (D-NV), Debbie Stabenow (D-MI), Bob Casey (D-PA), Maggie Hassan (D-NH)**

The ABC team urged members to consider the unintended consequences of this provision which is intended to clarify and standardize ASP reporting. Given the impending August congressional recess and substantial concerns with myriad provisions in the bill expressed by GOP Senators and other health care stakeholders, members and staff were doubtful the bill would quickly progress through the Senate and they committed to working with us to address this provision prior to any action later this year. In for a planned day in DC to join the ABC team on advocacy efforts and PAC engagement, Dina and Carissa also joined **Beth Mitchell** and **Ashley O'Sullivan** on meetings with staff representing **PA Reps. Chrissy Houlahan (D), Dan Meuser (R)** and **Guy Reschenthaler (R)** as part of Life Sciences Pennsylvania's outreach to new PA elected officials.