

CALL TO ACTION

Help ICA Grow Membership in the New Congressional Integrative Health and Wellness Caucus



The International Chiropractors Association (ICA) is calling upon all US state chiropractic associations to invite their Members of Congress to join the recently formed Integrative Health and Wellness Congressional Caucus. The caucus is designed to serve as a non-partisan educational forum for Members to receive up to date information regarding integrative health, and wellness issues and care pathways, including the proven clinically and cost-effective record of chiropractic care. The first caucus event is in the planning stages for mid-March and will focus on non-drug options for pain management.

Members of Congress can join by contacting either of the co-chairs of the Caucus – Representative Mike Coffman (R-CO) or Representative Jared Polis (D-CO). You can locate your personal Member and also obtain a list of your state Congressional delegation by going to:

<https://www.house.gov/>

and

<https://www.senate.gov/senators/contact/>

ICA has been integrally involved in the development of this caucus as part of our activities with the Integrative Health Policy Consortium (IHPC). ICA's Director of Government Relations, Beth Clay, serves as the co-chair of the IHPC Federal Policy Committee and Dr. Stephen Welsh, ICA Vice President serves on their Board of Directors.

The ICA recently sent a letter of invitation to every Member of the US House of Representatives asking for their participation in this important new policy group by formally becoming a caucus member. This first outreach message will be significantly strengthened by invitations coming from state associations and individual chiropractors as well. The coming year is tremendously important to the nation as Congress continues to address health insurance reform, expanding health care pathway options to help our veterans and military members, the national opioids crisis and addressing the ever-increasing rates of chronic diseases in Americans.

By participating in this new caucus, Members of Congress will have the opportunity to learn about the scientific evidence and track record of chiropractic care. We can utilize this pathway of communication and education to highlight how chiropractors are trained and uniquely qualified to promote health and wellness across the lifespan, for patients of

all ages. Through this forum, we can help dispel misinformation about risks, and tear down the remnants of prejudice that closed-minded health professions, threatened by a different philosophy of healing, instilled in society over sixty years ago.

Ways to engage legislators to request their join the caucus:

1. Send a letter.
2. Call their office.
3. Use Social Media – Facebook and Twitter.
4. Face to face discussion - socially or formally in meeting.

“Chiropractic’s Congressional outreach is made stronger with a coordinated engagement on the part of state associations. Working together we can grow the membership of this caucus and thus expand our opportunities to build support for improved policies and resources for the chiropractic profession and those we serve,” said Beth Clay. “The participation of your association is not only requested, it is needed to maximize the impact of this new caucus. We hope we can count on you.”

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