Healthcare Policy and Economics from a Congressional Perspective

MPH Practicum: Office of Congressman Jim Cooper, TN 5th Allan B. Peetz, M.D.

SUMMARY

The office of Congressman Jim Cooper serves the 5th congressional district of Tennessee and the approximately 700,00 constituents who live in Davidson, Dickson, and parts of Cheatham counties.

This practicum provided comprehensive exposure into the various stakeholders, political issues, and economic concerns that affecting healthcare policy makers.

PURPOSE

The goal of this practicum experience was to take an active role in constituent meetings with Congressman Cooper.

A secondary goal was to assist the Congressman's office through active review, research, as well as advisement when appropriate, on legislative or congressional matters regarding healthcare-related questions.

STRUCTURE AND DESIGN

To achieve the goals of the practicum, the experience was centered around active participation in meetings that involved healthcare policy stakeholders and the evaluation and development of policies.

- · Meet with constituents on relevant healthcare policy
- Review policy and advise on healthcare policies affecting the federal government
- · Present briefings on healthcare policy issues
- · Collaborate with Health Policy Fellow in D.C.

OFFICE OF CONGRESSMAN JIM COPPER





TESTIMONY ON AMENDMENT 42

TennCare Considers Converting Federal Funding To Block Grant



NEW LIVER ALLOCIATION RULES

Rep: Cooper Considers Federal And State Implication of New Organ Donation Rules





OUTCOMES

This practicum allowed for a deeper understanding of the stakeholders within a congressional district, the behavior of the healthcare industry, healthcare economics, and how these factors influence public discourse.

This resulted in:

- 1. Presented policy issues brought on by new organ donor rules.
- 2. Assisted the development of testimony regarding TennCare II Amendment 42.
- 3. Facilitated, with the VUMC Division of Trauma, a "Stop the Bleed" event.



INTERPRETATION

The practicum in Congressman Cooper's office highlighted the economic and political forces that drive healthcare in the US and a led to greater understanding of the the process of developing healthcare policy.