



Edwards PAC Newsletter - April 2023 Voice.Action.Impact

Legislation Promoting Faster Access to 'Breakthrough' Medical Products



The Ensuring Patient Access to Critical Breakthrough Products Act, which would provide Medicare beneficiaries with faster access to innovative medical technologies, was reintroduced March 22 as HR 1691. It has eight original bipartisan cosponsors, which includes an impressive group of senior members on the Ways and Means and Energy and Commerce Committees: Representatives Brad Wenstrup (R-OH) and Suzan DelBene (D-WA), along with Representatives Gus Bilirakis (R-FL), Tony Cárdenas (D-CA), Blake Moore (R-UT) [pictured above in Draper], Terri Sewell (D-AL) [pictured above in Irvine], Brett Guthrie (R-KY), and Anna Eshoo (D-CA). [HB1] The legislation establishes a position for Congress in advance of related rulemaking CMS is expected to announce in April regarding Transitional Coverage for Emerging Technologies (TCET). Related press releases from Reps. Brad Wenstrup and Suzan DelBene can be found [here](#) and [here](#).

Representative Brad Wenstrup (R-OH) March 2023 Teams Town Hall



The Edwards PAC, along with the Friends of Veterans Network ERG, co-hosted Rep. Wenstrup (R-OH) for a Teams Town Hall on March 15. Rep. Wenstrup served in U.S. Army Reserve from 1998-2022, retiring with the rank of colonel. In 2005-06, he served a tour in Iraq as a combat surgeon, and was awarded a Bronze Star and Combat Action Badge for his service. In 2018, Colonel Wenstrup was awarded the Soldier's Medal for heroism. During his time in Congress, Brad fulfilled his Reserve duties by serving as the Medical Policy Advisor for the Chief of the Army Reserve as well as seeing patients at Walter Reed National Military Medical Center in Bethesda.

During the town hall, the Congressman discussed his time in the military, as a physician, and his priorities in health care. Members of the PAC and the FOV ERG were able to ask him questions about health care and his time in the military.

California State Senator Josh Newman April 2023 Teams Town Hall



Also, in collaboration with the FOV ERG, the Edwards PAC hosted a Teams Town Hall with Sen. Newman on April 6. The senator served as an artillery officer in the U.S. Army with a nuclear weapons unit in South Korea and a conventional artillery battalion in the 25th Infantry Division in Hawaii. Sen. Newman, along with California Life Sciences, championed the restoration of the R&D Tax Credit for life sciences companies in California for tax years 2021 and 2022, which is critical for innovation and the future of care for patients. Technical innovation fueled by R&D tax credits is crucial to California's future as the state accounts for over one-fifth of the total U.S. R&D investments and nearly the largest share of U.S. patents.

Sen. Newman answered questions about his time in the Army and his priorities in health care, education, homelessness, and veterans' services.

Representative Jay Obernolte's (R-CA) Irvine Campus Visit



Rep. Obernolte visited the Irvine campus on Tuesday, April 11, 2023. The Congressman toured the campus with Edwards employees and met with CVP of Strategic & Corporate Development, Don Bobo.

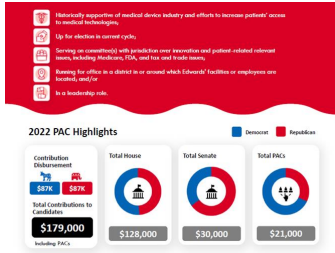
The Congressman serves on the House of Energy and Commerce Committee which oversees the FDA and Medicare related issues.

10th Annual California Life Sciences Academy



The 10th Annual California Life Sciences Academy was held Feb. 28 – March 1. Edwards GA team attended the event along with Frantz Tiffeau, Jr., VP of Diversity, Inclusion and Belonging. Members of the state assembly and senate moderated and discussed topics of importance to the life science industry in California, such as how innovation improves patient outcomes, and the importance of improving health equity and access (led by PAC member Frantz Tiffeau).

2022 PAC Spending Review



The Annual PAC Spending Review has been released. The document can be viewed [here](#). Highlights of the spending review include total contributions to candidates at \$179,000 with the PAC spending \$128,000 on the House, \$30,000 on the Senate and \$21,000 on PACs. In 2022, PAC spending was divided 50:50 between Democrats and Republicans; the Edwards PAC also contributed \$5,000 to the Advamed PAC.

Policy Wonk Minute

PAHPA Reauthorization – In December 2006, Congress first enacted the Pandemic and All-Hazards Preparedness Act (PAHPA), which, among other provisions, created the role of Assistant Secretary for Preparedness Response (ASPR), which constitutes the basis for our nation’s coordinated response to widespread threats to public health. This year, the House Energy and Commerce and Senate HELP Committees have begun work to reauthorize the law by issuing respective “requests for information” to solicit public feedback and inform their legislative efforts. As this is the first reauthorization since the COVID-19 outbreak began, expect a robust debate as stakeholders jockey for inclusion in this “must-pass” legislation.



National Journal Content Available to Edwards PAC Members



If you truly are a political junkie or want to learn more about politics, the GA Team has expanded the Edwards Lifesciences National Journal subscription to allow access to certain events to Edwards PAC members.

National Journal’s events showcase research, insights, policy coverage and journalism through webinars. Register via these links or reach out to Christie Ankrum (cankrum@nationaljournal.com) to RSVP.

Cook Catch Up Series RSVP

Join Charlie Cook as he provides his recap of the week, shares his latest outlook on the political landscape, and answers your questions.

<https://go.nationaljournal.com/Cook-Catch-Up-Virtual-Series.html>

Virtual Series: Hotline Power Hour

Step into the Hotline newsroom as the team discusses the latest from the campaign trail and analyzes races up and down the ballot.

<https://go.nationaljournal.com/hotline-power-hour-series.html>

Join the Edwards Political and Policy News Blog



If you would like to receive daily policy and politics news, join the Edwards Political and Policy News blog [here](#).

Welcome to our new Edwards PAC Members!

New Members who have joined since February 1, 2023

Andrew Garcia, Designer, Engineering

John Costa, Sr. Sales Specialist, Critical Care

Art Estrada, Sr. Sales Specialist, Critical Care

Jenna Rupieper, Manager, Global Health Economic and Reimbursement

Steven Fusswinkel, Sr. Director, Business Excellence

PAC Puzzler: Trivia

Last Month's Trivia Question:

What late American singer was the mayor of Palm Springs California from 1988 to 1992?

Answer: *Sonny Bono*

Congratulations to Alex Wagner who was the first to answer correctly and won a Yeti Mug.



New Trivia Question:

African American track star Ralph Metcalfe was born in Atlanta in 1910. After holding the world records for the 100m and 200m races and racking up Olympic medals, he became a politician. In Congress he helped create what three-lettered group that aims to "achieve greater equity for persons of African descent?"

Whoever e-mails Edwards_PAC@edwards.com with the correct answer first will win a Yeti Mug.

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Edwards

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