2019 Cancer Summit: Legislative Update

Nick Faustman

Director of Government Relations
American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network
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• Separate organization
• 501(c)(4)
• We support evidence-based policy and legislative solutions designed to eliminate cancer as a major health problem
Themes of 2019 Legislature
106th Legislature, 1st Session

• Continuation of short time restrictions
• A general rush to “compromise”
• 739 new legislative bills introduced
  – 472 passed, signed by Governor (as of 5/23)
  – 1 vetoed by Governor (as of 5/23)
• Lots of tobacco legislation
  – and it wasn’t all good

Speaker of the Legislature
Sen. Jim Scheer
(Norfolk)
Tobacco Control: Age of Purchase

• Increase age of purchase, use of tobacco to 21 – LB 149
• Treats e-cigarettes that contain nicotine same as tobacco products
• Passed at age 19
• E-cigarettes still not expressly prohibited under Nebraska Clean Indoor Air Act

Sen. Dan Quick
Grand Island
Tobacco Control: Taxation Proposals

• 1 Stand alone proposal
  – Sen. Machaela Cavanaugh
  – $1.50, mostly for health programs

• 3 property tax reform proposals
  – Sens. Briese, Crawford, Friesen (Comm. Members)
  – All three included $1.50 increase

• Issue still in play:
  – Continuous need for new revenues -- HCCF
  – Ballot initiative, 2020
Skin Cancer: Indoor Tanning Devices

- LB 140: Tanning bed restrictions
  - Prohibits minors from using indoor tanning beds
- Reintroduction of 2018 legislation
- Would fix a law first passed in 2012
- Stuck in committee because of tanning industry’s “compromise” proposal

Sen. Rick Kolowski
Millard
Other bills of interest

• LB 110: Medical cannabis
• LB 130: Radon-resistant new construction
• LB 356: New license plates & research funds
• LB 442: Medication synchronization
• LB 631: Medicaid Expansion Implementation Task Force
• LB 669: Pancreatic Cancer Research Center
Interim Studies of Interest

- LR 116 (Cavanaugh) Nebraska Health Care Cash Fund
- LR 170 (Morfeld) 1115 waiver for implementation of Medicaid expansion
- LR 172 (Williams) Health care provider incentives
- LR 173 (Quick) E-cigarettes & Nebraska Clean Indoor Air Act
- LR 182 (Kolterman) Melanoma screening & provider reimbursement
- LR 184 (Quick) Local health department funding
- LR 226 (Howard) Prescribing of opioids, effectiveness of PDMP
What Now?

• Advocacy is year-round process
  – Join ACS CAN
  – Establish relationship with senator
  – Help push for earlier implementation of Medicaid expansion
    • Public education campaign
  – Participate in Tobacco Cessation Awareness Week (November)
  – Attend ACS CAN Nebraska Policy Forum
    • Thursday, September 26, in Lincoln