Capitol Hill Report

Special Report from June 19-23, 2017 in Washington, D.C.

Accomplishments:

1. Seven meetings with U.S. Senators and Staff
2. Fourteen meetings with U.S. Representatives and Staff
3. One meeting with the Trump Administration
4. Presentation for event held at The Heritage Foundation
5. Distributed CCHF one-page wish list (Five Do’s and Five Don’ts); proposed legislation

Great Meetings with Congressmen Dave Brat (VA) and Steve King (IA):

Matt Flanders, CCHF legislative specialist, on the private balcony of The Speaker of the House on the front side of the U.S. Capitol:

Highlights:

1. Packet of information to Kellyanne Conway’s Chief of Staff
2. Brief chat with Congressman Jason Lewis in Cannon House Office Building
3. 30-minute meeting with Congressman Dave Brat and Health Policy Staffer
4. 60-minute meeting with Congressman Steve King and Legislative Director
5. 20-minute meeting with Congressman Tom Garret and Legislative Director
6. 45-minute meeting with an HHS Deputy Assistant Secretary
7. 30-minute meeting with House Speaker Paul Ryan’s Assistant to the Speaker for Policy
8. 30-minute meeting with House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy’s Health Policy Staffer

CCHF president Twila Brase presenting at Heritage:

Quotes from CCHF Meetings on Capitol Hill

Staffers:
- “These changes in terminology are very important.”
  -- regarding our suggestion to switch from saying “pre-existing conditions” to “uninsurable conditions” and from “redistribution of wealth” to “redistribution of wages”
- “Sounds like a [Rep.] Yoho wish list” (CCHF list of five do’s and five don’ts)
- “Keep doing what you’re doing. Keep getting the word out!”
- “I think you’re definitely right, that in some aspects, we’ve lost the messaging. Changing terms and winning message strategies are necessary.”
- “This is terrific! I really appreciate this!”

Members:
- “That’s a good idea. I’ve never heard anyone say that.”
- “Frank Luntz hasn’t given me anything this good in a while.”
- “You think so clearly. Why don’t we have someone in Congress who can speak like this?”

Exchange:
- “You probably remember who we are.” – CCHF president Twila Brase
- “The good guys!” – Congressional staffer