



Take Action in August: Advocacy Toolkit

Thanks to the diabetes community's tireless advocacy, we have made great progress on our legislative priorities, and you can help us continue to build momentum!

Members of the U.S. House of Representatives have returned home to their districts for their annual August recess so Members can meet with constituents and attend events closer to home. The U.S. Senate will soon follow suit.

Now is a great time to educate and engage your Members of Congress and their staffs on the issues important to people with diabetes. Coming to Washington, DC, to meet with Members of Congress and their staff is just one way to advocate for the issues important to people with diabetes.

Here are some ways you can engage that are closer to home:

- Schedule a meeting at your Member's local district office
- Attend a Town Hall meeting or other event where your Member will be present
- Post information or comments on social media and tag your Members
- Write a letter to the editor to your local newspaper (*our team can help with this!*)
- Call or email their office to ask Members to cosponsor DPAC's legislative priorities.

Click [here](#) to find out which Members represent you, get links to their social media, and find out how you can get in touch with them.

During the month of August, we are asking you to focus on two of the priorities that have momentum right now: the Expanding Access to Diabetes Self-Management Training (DSMT) Act and the Medical Nutrition Therapy (MNT) Act. If you have any questions, contact arkaufman@diabetesleadership.org.

Access to Diabetes Tech & Education: Expanding Access to DSMT Act

People with diabetes entering Medicare can face barriers to maintaining access to the services they rely on, including DSMT. The Expanding Access to DSMT Act would expand Medicare coverage of DSMT sessions with diabetes educators who help train Medicare beneficiaries on disease management and diabetes technologies.

- **Ask Senate offices** to cosponsor and support the Expanding Access to DSMT Act ([S. 1925](#))
- **Ask House offices** to cosponsor and support the Expanding Access to DSMT Act ([H.R. 3826](#))

Take action:

- Click [here](#) to send an email to your Members
 - Share our post on [Instagram](#), [LinkedIn](#), or [Facebook](#), and ask your networks to take action through our link [here](#).
 - Call your Members' offices and use [these talking points](#) as a script
 - Use this [briefing paper](#) as a handout for a meeting or drop-off at your Members' offices
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Addressing the Obesity Epidemic

Obesity rates in the US have increased dramatically over the past 30 years. Today, over 40% of US adults live with obesity, making them more vulnerable to type 2 diabetes and more than 200 other serious health conditions including heart disease, high blood pressure, and stroke. Addressing this epidemic requires obesity to be treated and proactively managed with the full continuum of care, including medical nutrition therapy (MNT). Unfortunately, Medicare has not kept pace and must be updated to cover comprehensive treatment including MNT.

- **Ask Senate offices** to cosponsor and support the Medical Nutrition Therapy Act ([S. 3934](#))
- **Ask House offices** to cosponsor and support the Medical Nutrition Therapy Act ([H.R. 6199](#))

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