

**Diabetes Advocacy**  
Presented by: Kate Thomas  
Date: October 17, 2019

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**Notice of Requirements for Successful Completion:**  
For successful completion, participants are required to be in attendance in the full activity and complete the program evaluation at the conclusion of the educational event.

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**Learning Objectives**

- Defining Advocacy
- AADE Advocacy
- Federal Legislative Process
- Expanding Access to DSMT Act
- Advocacy Engagement
- Other Initiatives

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## Defining Advocacy

- According to Merriam-Webster: Advocate (n.)
  1. One who pleads another's cause
  2. One who argues or pleads for a cause or proposal
- Advocacy is supporting a cause or proposal by using education and/or argument to do so
- There are many ways to advocate (something for everyone!)
- This presentation will provide a framework for understanding some current national issues and getting involved

What does advocacy mean to you?

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## AADE Advocacy

- Advancing federal legislation
- Responding to federal regulations
- Reimbursement and payment
- Supporting state-level initiatives
- Relationship-building
- Growing advocacy network

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## What's happening on the Hill?

- New Congress (116<sup>th</sup>) began on January 3, 2019
- Congressional Session = 2 years
- In 115<sup>th</sup> Congress, 443 laws enacted out of 13,556 bills\*
- Reintroduction of legislation (originally H.R. 5768, S. 3366)
- Focus: Drug pricing, surprise medical bills, election

\* Source:  
<https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/statistics>

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## Quick Recap- How does a bill become a law?



Source: <https://www.aade.org/american-association-of-diabetes-educators/bills-resolution/7247-2-5656-1424-8160-fc6317a8439f1600>

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## Easy, right?

- Start with an idea
- Write the bill, find sponsors
- Introduce, get assigned a bill #
- Refer to committee
- Once committee/subcommittee reviews, report to House/Senate floor
- Vote
- Refer to other chamber (House or Senate)
- Send to the President

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## Expanding Access to DSMT Act (H.R. 1840/S. 814)

- S. 814: Introduced by Senators Jean Shaheen (D-NH) and Susan Collins (R-ME) on March 14
- H.R. 1840: Introduced by Representatives Tom Reed (R-NY) and Diana DeGette (D-CO) on March 21 with 4 original co-sponsors
- **Reminder:** Diabetes Self-Management Training (DSMT) refers to Medicare Benefit

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## DSMT and MNT

Current Law	HR 1840, S 814
The Secretary of HHS has the discretion to prevent DSMT and MNT services from being covered and reimbursed on the same day, which is currently the case.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Allows DSMT and MNT to be covered and reimbursed when provided on the same day</li> </ul>
MNT= Medical Nutrition Therapy	

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## Removes Co-pays and Cost-sharing

Current Law	HR 1840, S 814
As a Medicare Part B service, DSMT is subject to cost-sharing and deductible requirements.	<p>Removes DSMT services from Medicare Part B cost-sharing and deductible requirements for beneficiaries.</p> <p>This eliminates these out-of-pocket costs for Medicare beneficiaries.</p>

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## Expands the List of Referring Providers

Current Law	HR 1840, S 814
Permits only physicians and qualified non-physician practitioners <i>treating</i> an individual's diabetes to order DSMT services.	<p>Permits physicians and qualified non-physician practitioners <i>managing</i> an individual's diabetes, in coordination with the treating physician or qualified non-physician practitioner to order DSMT services.</p> <p>This includes providers like podiatrists or emergency department providers</p> <p>*Qualified non-physician practitioners include PAs, NPs, and Clinical Nurse Specialists.</p>

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## Provides DSMT in Community Locations

Current Law	HR 1840, S 814
Need to clarify whether DSMT services can be provided by hospital outpatient departments in community-based settings.	Clarifies that hospital outpatient departments can provide DSMT services in nonhospital sites, such as community-based locations (religious or recreation centers, libraries, etc.)

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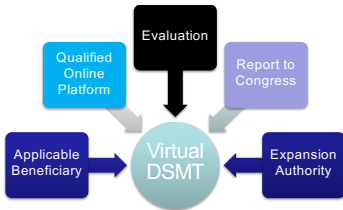
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## Virtual DSMT



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## What's next?

Now that legislation is introduced, we must build our list of supporters (cosponsors).




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## Building Cosponsors

- What is a cosponsor?
  - A senator or representative who adds his/her name as a supporter to a bill
- To view the current list of cosponsors visit:
  - [www.congress.gov](http://www.congress.gov), search "H.R. 1840" or "S. 814"
- Supporters from CA: Reps. Ruiz (CA-36), Peters (CA-52), Lofgren (CA-19), Porter (CA-45), Harley (CA-48), Harder (CA-10), Sherman (CA-30)

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## Public Policy Forum

### Day 1:

- Bring AADE members to Washington, DC for training and Hill meetings
- Schedule meetings for diabetes educators with federal legislators (House and Senate)
- Host day of training to learn more about Expanding Access to DSMT Act (H.R. 1840, S. 814)

### Day 2:

- AADE members meet with their legislators and discuss the Expanding Access to DSMT Act
- Divided into small groups
- Attend 5-9 meetings (approx.)

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## Public Policy Forum

- 35 states represented
- 120+ Hill meetings
- Added cosponsors to H.R. 1840, S. 814

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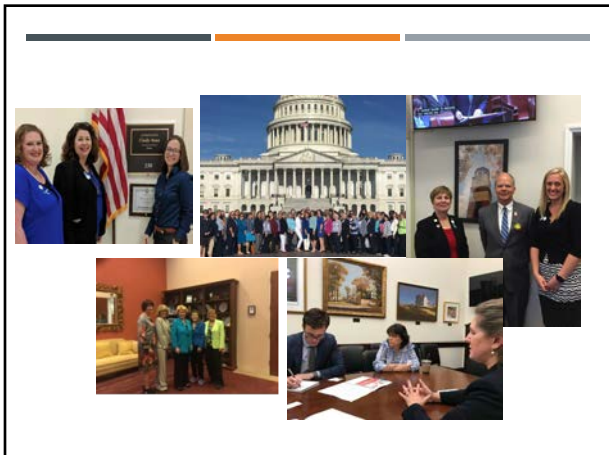
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AADE American Association of Diabetes Educators

## Can't make it to Washington?

No problem!



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## Advocacy Engagement

- Subscribe
- Participate
- Share
- Communicate
- Connect
- Provide feedback

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## Advocacy Forum on My AADE Network

The screenshot shows the 'MY AADE NETWORK' interface. At the top, there are three circular icons labeled 'My State Network', 'Connections of Interest', and 'Get Involved'. Below these are sections for 'Latest Discussions', 'Help Center', and 'Volunteer Leader Spotlight'. A video player is visible at the bottom, and a red circle highlights the 'Share' button in the bottom right corner of the video player.

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AADE American Association of Diabetes Educators

## Advocacy Forum on My AADE Network

The screenshot shows the 'MY AADE NETWORK' interface with the 'AADE Advocacy' section highlighted. The 'AADE Advocacy' section includes a description: 'Connect with other diabetes educators to discuss legislative and regulatory issues, ask questions, and find support for grassroots activities.' Below this are sections for 'About Us', 'Latest Blog Articles', 'Subscribe', 'Calendar', and 'Latest Threads'.

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## Advocacy Forum on My AADE Network



REGULAR  
UPDATES



BLOG POSTS



DISCUSSION



Q&A

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## Advocacy Townhall

- Advocacy Committee host regular calls
- Check the Advocacy Forum for updates

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## Other

- AADE Legislative Action Center
- Newsletters
- Social Media
- Action Alerts
- CB/LNGs
- Podcasts:  
<https://www.diabeteseducator.org/news/aa-de-podcasts>

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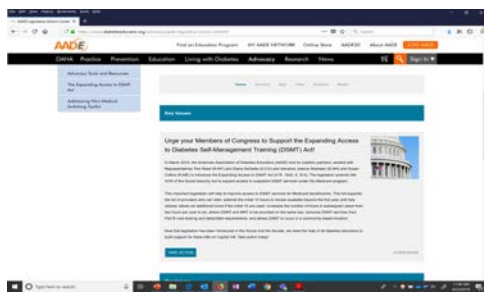
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## Legislative Action Center



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## OTHER ADVOCACY INITIATIVES

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AADE members are talking about reimbursement

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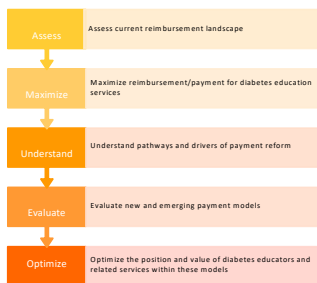
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## AADE Focus- Convene Experts to:



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## Other Initiatives

- Healthy People 2030
- Coverage issues, example UHC
- State issues, Medicaid coverage of CGM, DPP
- Non-Medical Switching
- Medicare policy: accreditation, Medicare fee schedule, technology
- National Clinical Care Commission

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## National Clinical Care Commission

- NCCC evaluates and provides recommendations on the coordination and leveraging of federal programs related to complex metabolic or autoimmune diseases that result from insulin-related issues and represent a significant disease burden in the United States, including complications due to such diseases.

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## National Clinical Care Commission

- Diabetes Educator Jasmine Gonzalvo, PharmD, BCPS, BC-ADM, CDE, LDE, FAADE is one of only 12 non-federal members appointed to the NCCC
- Conduct activities over three-year period- until October 2021
  - Year 1: Information gathering
  - Year 2: Analysis
  - Year 3: Reporting and recommendations- report due October 31, 2021
- NCCC held 3 meetings in 2019- October, February (virtual), June

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## National Clinical Care Commission

- Established three subcommittees to review information
  - Prevention- General Population
  - Prevention- Targeted Population
  - Diabetes Complications and Treatment
- Subcommittees developed framing statements to define scope
- Next step: requesting data from federal agencies

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## Questions?

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## Contact

Kate Thomas, Director of Advocacy  
[kthomas@aadenet.org](mailto:kthomas@aadenet.org) or 312-601-4821

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