

April 2011

## Certification Corner

**Q: I'm attending the IAHCSSM Annual Meeting in Louisville. What programs, if any, will address government affairs and certification-related initiatives?**

A: You'll be happy to learn that there are two programs in the meeting lineup. The first, taking place Monday, May 2, at 2PM, is a general session entitled "Legislative Update on Certification Efforts in the States." This session will outline the government affairs structure for state certification efforts. It will explain which states have ongoing efforts to pass certification, as well as the status of those efforts. It will also explain the legislative process in detail, discuss how grassroots advocacy works and identify what members can do to get involved. If you are interested in IAHCSSM's legislative efforts, this session will provide a great opportunity for you to learn what's happening and how to become more involved. I hope to see you there!

The second offering is a Learning Annex on Tuesday, May 3. This 30-minute Learning Annex, entitled "Educate Your Elected Officials About Central Sterile Supply Week," will take place at 9:00AM, 9:30AM, 10:00AM, 10:30AM, 12:00PM, 12:30PM, 1:00PM, and 1:30PM. Participants will learn how to properly reach out to their elected officials. I will also explain how to request proclamations and write letters to elected officials (and to local newspapers) for Central Sterile Supply Week in 2011. Don't miss this exciting opportunity to educate your elected officials on your profession!

**Q: Have any certification bills been introduced this legislative session?**

A: Yes, a certification bill in New York was introduced March 4, 2011. A6030 ([http://assembly.state.ny.us/leg/?default\\_fld=&bn=+A06030%09%09&Text=Y](http://assembly.state.ny.us/leg/?default_fld=&bn=+A06030%09%09&Text=Y)) was assigned to the House Higher Education Committee. Currently, there is no opposition to this bill. The bill has not yet been scheduled for a committee hearing. Additionally, we have draft certification legislation in Pennsylvania and Ohio, but that has not yet been formally introduced into the legislatures. Hopefully, these bills will be introduced soon. I will be sure to keep you apprised of any details and developments as they unfold.



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