

## 02/26/10 - 13 legislative offices visited during "Illinois In District Day for HR-3790"

Written by Rob Brant  
Friday, 26 February 2010 00:00

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Chicago, IL - Over 60 DME owners, employees, manufacturer representatives and Medicare Beneficiaries visited 13 legislative offices during the Illinois In-District Day for HR-3790

The Illinois Association of Medical Equipment Services coordinated their membership and arranged for constituents to attend the meetings with help from AMEPA, The Med Group, VGM Group and Medline.

John Gallagher from VGM, Julie Piriano from Pride Mobility and Rob Brant and Sean Schwinghammer from AMEPA led 4 different groups around the Chicago MSA to discuss the need for additional Illinois co-sponsors on HR-3790

There are currently 0 of 11 legislators from the Cook, DuPage and Lake Counties (Chicago MSA) co-sponsoring the bill. The subdivision of the Chicago MSA is part of the agenda of the upcoming PAOC meeting.

### **U.S. Representatives visited in and near the Chicago MSA**

District 1: Rep. Bobby Rush (D-Chicago, IL)

District 2: Rep. Jesse Jackson (D-Homewood, IL)

District 3: Rep. Daniel Lipinski (D-Chicago, IL)

District 4: Rep. Luis Gutierrez (D-Chicago, IL)

District 5: Rep. Mike Quigley (D-Chicago, IL)

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District 6: Rep. Peter Roskam (R-Bloomingtondale, IL)

District 7: Rep. Danny Davis (D-Chicago, IL)

District 8: Rep. Melissa Bean (D-Schaumburg, IL)

District 9: Rep. Janice Schakowsky (D-Chicago, IL)

District 10: Rep. Mark Kirk (R-Northbrook, IL)

District 11: Rep. Deborah Halvorson (D-Joliet, IL)

District 13: Rep. Judy Biggert (R-Willowbrook, IL)

District 14: Rep. Bill Foster (D-Batavia, IL)

(From Left to Right: Derrick Janssen, Shield Healthcare; Dave Doubek, Doubek Medical Supply; Michelle Greer, AdvaCare Systems and Rob Brant in front of Congressman Luis Guitierrez's District Office in Chicago)

One meeting in Jesse Jackson, Jr.'s district office was attended by 2 local DME owners, 3 local employees and 2 Medicare beneficiaries. One of the beneficiaries was a local mayor and the other was an administrator for a retirement community. At Congressman Mark Kirk's office 10 industry representatives attended the meeting including Ken Thunholm from VGM and Tim Dundon from Medline Industries. Medline's corporate headquarters is located in Congressman Kirk's district.

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AMEPA and IAMES wanted to thank Medline, the Medgroup and VGM for sponsoring the event. However, the real thanks go to the HME business owners and employees who took the time to stand up for the HME industry and the patients that they serve. Those businesses that participated included:

AdvaCare Systems

Advocate Home Care Products

Air Systems of Illinois

Apria

Doubek Medical Supply and Pharmacy

Jcare Home Medical Supplies, Inc

Lang Home Medical Equipment

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Mark Drug Medical Supply

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Ostomy Center

Premier Homecare Supplies, LTD

Remco Medical

Shield Healthcare

Vital Products Limited

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Gallagher, Piriano, Brant and Schwinghammer as well as Illinois HME representatives will be following up with these 13 legislators, next week in Washington, D.C., during AAHomecare's Legislative Conference.