

## » LAAC UPDATES – JANUARY 2016

The LAAC provides periodic updates to inform members about recent advocacy efforts and to request input from members about their advocacy needs.

### Medicare Physician Definition

Psychologists are not currently included in the Medicare definition of a physician. Exclusion from this definition limits the services psychologists can independently provide, without physician supervision. In December 2015, Representatives Jan Schakowsky (D-IL) and Kristi Noem (R-SD) introduced H.R. 4277 (Medicare Mental Health Access Act) in the U.S. House of Representatives. This important bipartisan legislation expands the Medicare definition of a physician to include psychologists. The NAN BOD sent [letters of support](#) to the co-sponsors of the bill and will sign on as a supporter on the APA Practice Organization fact sheet. If you or anyone you know has been impacted by Medicare's physician oversight requirement, please have them fill out this short [survey](#) being collected by APAPO. Keep an eye out for future communications and requests for grassroots action.

### State Action Network

The LAAC needs your help to create a 50 state action network. We are looking for at least one member from each state to help us keep track of important legislation or advocacy issues that we should be aware of and working on for our members. We don't anticipate heavy time commitments and this is a great way to have your voice heard. If interested please contact: [LAACCommittee@nanonline.org](mailto:LAACCommittee@nanonline.org). We need representatives from the following states:

Arizona	Missouri	South Dakota
Connecticut	Nebraska	Tennessee
Delaware	Nevada	Utah
Indiana	New Hampshire	Vermont
Iowa	New Mexico	Washington
Kentucky	North Dakota	Wisconsin
Maine	Oklahoma	Wyoming
Maryland	Oregon	
Minnesota	Rhode Island	
Mississippi	South Carolina	