



NATIONAL ADVOCACY CONFERENCE

Feb. 10–12, 2025
Grand Hyatt Washington
Washington, D.C.



Monday, Feb. 10

President's lecture

3–4 p.m.

Independence Ballroom A



Michael J. Sorrell, EdD

Visionary leader, institutional change agent
President, Paul Quinn College

Kicking off this year's conference is Michael J. Sorrell, EdD. Dr. Sorrell has spearheaded one of the great turnaround stories of our time—

leading Paul Quinn College's evolution from one of the worst in the nation to a higher education powerhouse. He brought a vision for rebuilding the 151-year-old historically Black college that centered on the foundations of problem-solving, entrepreneurship and academic excellence.

AMA leadership on the issues

4–5 p.m.

Independence Ballroom A

Moderated by American Medical Association CEO and Executive Vice President James L. Madara, MD, this session shares the perspectives of the AMA president, president-elect, and the chair of the AMA Board of Trustees on the issues they address daily when discussing the AMA's efforts and advocacy agenda with members of Congress, the administration and the media.

- **Bruce A. Scott, MD**, president, AMA
- **Bobby Mukkamala, MD**, president-elect, AMA
- **Michael Suk, MD, JD, MPH, MBA**, chair, Board of Trustees, AMA

Hook, line and sinker: Hill visit training

5–6 p.m.

Independence Ballroom A

Meet the other advocates who are part of your lobbying team, and plan what each person will contribute to the discussion. The session begins with an explanation of the three critical parts of a legislative meeting (Hook, Line and Sinker), then time is provided to prepare this year's message with fellow advocates from your state.

- **Lindsey Brill**, senior assistant director, congressional affairs, AMA
- **Dana Lichtenberg**, assistant director, congressional affairs, AMA
- **Christopher Kush, MPP**, CEO, Soapbox Consulting

Welcome reception (Sponsored by AMPAC)

6–7 p.m.

Independence Ballroom B–E



Tuesday, Feb. 11

Breakfast

7–8 a.m.

Independence Ballroom B–E

The road ahead: The new/old politics of Washington

8:30–9:30 a.m.

Independence Ballroom A



David Thomas and Sage Eastman

Mehlman Consulting

Bipartisan partners at Mehlman Consulting will provide an overview of the politics and policy landscape surrounding President Trump's return to Washington and preview some of the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead.



MedPAC insights

9:30–10 a.m.

Independence Ballroom A



Paul B. Masi, MPP

Executive director

Medicare Payment Advisory Commission

Paul B. Masi, MPP is the executive director of the Medicare Payment Advisory Commission (MedPAC), a nonpartisan federal commission that advises the

U.S. Congress on Medicare payment, quality and access issues. Prior to his current role, he served as the unit chief of the Health Systems and Medicare Cost Estimates Unit at the Congressional Budget Office (CBO), where he led an analytic team in producing baseline projections of Medicare spending and in estimating the federal budgetary effects of legislation affecting Medicare. Mr. Masi, who earned an MPP from the University of California at Berkeley, previously served as MedPAC's assistant director, as a principal analyst at the CBO, and as a research associate at The Urban Institute.

Congressional perspectives: Rep. Herb Conaway, MD, JD (D-N.J.)

10–10:30 a.m.

Independence Ballroom A



Rep. Herb Conaway, MD, JD, a practicing internal medicine physician, is a freshman member of Congress representing New Jersey's 3rd Congressional District. Prior to his election in November 2024, he served for 25 years in the New Jersey General Assembly.

Rep. Conaway practiced in primary care settings before transitioning to academia, becoming a clinical professor at an inner-city community hospital. Rep. Conway, who also earned a law degree from Rutgers Law School, served in the U.S. Air Force, where he rose to the rank of captain in the Medical Corps at McGuire Air Force Base.

In the 119th Congress, Rep. Conaway serves on the House Small Business Committee and Veterans' Affairs Committee.

Capitol Hill briefing

10:30–11 a.m.

Independence Ballroom A

In this session, senior advocacy staff from the American Medical Association will deliver an overview of the organization's priority issues and things to keep in mind if you are meeting with members of Congress.

- **Todd Askew**, senior vice president, Advocacy, AMA
- **Jason Marino**, director, congressional affairs, AMA

Lunch

11 a.m.–noon

Independence Ballroom B–E

Afternoon: Free for Hill visits

“Fix Medicare Now” kickoff event

2:30–3:30 p.m.

U.S. House Cannon Caucus Room, Capitol Hill

As part of this year's conference, head to Capitol Hill to hear directly from the AMA president, chair of the AMA Board of Trustees, and federal lawmakers working toward Medicare payment solutions.

See agenda insert for more details.

AMA Awards for Outstanding Government Service reception

6–7 p.m.

Independence Ballroom B–E

This reception is open to all National Advocacy Conference attendees.

AMA Awards for Outstanding Government Service dinner

7–9:30 p.m.

Independence Ballroom A



Kelly O'Donnell

White House correspondent, NBC News

Kelly O'Donnell is a veteran political correspondent, award-winning reporter and gifted expert in presidential politics. Currently serving as a White House correspondent for NBC News, O'Donnell has

covered the administrations of George W. Bush, Barack Obama, Donald Trump and Joe Biden.

Among her many honors, she has twice been part of the *NBC Nightly News* team honored with an Edward R. Murrow Award and, in 2021, was elected president of the White House Correspondents' Association for 2023–2024.

Wednesday, Feb. 12

Breakfast

7–8 a.m.

Independence Ballroom B–E

Inside the Beltway

8:30–9:30 a.m.

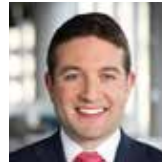
Independence Ballroom A



Anna Palmer and Jake Sherman

Co-founders of Punchbowl News

Former co-authors of POLITICO Playbook



When it comes to understanding the landscape on Capitol Hill, few can match the insights and analysis of Anna Palmer and Jake Sherman. As co-founders of Punchbowl News, a news community focused on power, people and politics in Washington, they are go-to sources for the latest—and most accurate—news on the policies and personalities shaping politics today.

Palmer, who is CEO of Punchbowl News, and Sherman are remarkable collaborators. From 2016 to 2020 they were co-authors of the top-rated POLITICO Playbook franchise that chronicled the first Trump administration. In 2019 they authored *The Hill to Die On: The Battle for Congress and the future of Trump's America*, which became an instant *New York Times* and national bestseller.

Congressional perspectives: Rep. Raja Krishnamoorthi, JD (D-ILL.)

9:30–10 a.m.

Independence Ballroom A



A four-term member of Congress, Rep. Raja

Krishnamoorthi represents Illinois' 8th

Congressional District, which includes portions

of Chicago and the surrounding suburbs. Rep.

Krishnamoorthi serves as the ranking member of the Select Committee on the Strategic Competition

Between the United States and Chinese Communist Party, making him the first South Asian American to lead a congressional committee, as well as the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence.

The congressman, who is married to a practicing anesthesiologist, has fought tirelessly for Medicare physician payment reform including cosponsoring the Strengthening Medicare for Patients and Providers Act, the Medicare Patient Access and Practice Stabilization Act, the Provider Reimbursement Stability Act, and the Conrad State 30 and Physician Access Reauthorization Act.

Congressional perspectives: Rep. Maxine Dexter, MD (D-Ore.)
10–10:30 a.m.
Independence Ballroom A



Elected in November 2024, Rep. Maxine Dexter, MD, represents Oregon's 3rd Congressional District. For the past three years, she represented the 33rd district in the Oregon House of Representatives.

A native of the Pacific Northwest, Rep. Dexter earned both her bachelor's degree in political science and communications and her medical degree from the University of Washington. After completing her education, she moved to Portland, Ore., and began her medical career as a lung and critical care physician at Kaiser Permanente. A "pragmatic progressive," Rep. Dexter serves on the House Natural Resources Committee and the Veterans' Affairs Committee in the 119th Congress.

Congressional perspectives: Rep. Bob Onder, MD, JD (R-Mo.)
10:30–11 a.m.
Independence Ballroom A



Serving his first term as a member of the U.S. House of Representatives, Rep. Bob Onder, MD, JD, is currently a member of the House Education and Workforce Committee and the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee.

Rep. Onder has been a physician and small business owner for over 20 years. With a reputation for fighting scope creep, he is board certified in allergy and immunology and internal medicine and a member of the Missouri State Medical Association. He previously served in the Missouri Senate and the Missouri House of Representatives. As a Missouri state senator, he received a legislative award from the Missouri Academy of Family Physicians for his help in passing legislation relating to direct primary care options in Missouri.

Congressional perspectives: Rep. Diana DeGette, JD (D-Colo.)
11–11:30 a.m.
Independence Ballroom A



Rep. Diana DeGette is a fourth-generation Coloradoan who represents Colorado's 1st Congressional District. Rep. DeGette is the top Democrat on the House Committee on Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Health where she is leading efforts to make health care more accessible and affordable for all Americans.

In addition to authoring the 21st Century Cures Act, which revolutionized research and development of innovative new treatments for patients, Rep. DeGette has led efforts to cap insulin costs as the co-chair of the Congressional Diabetes Caucus. Across multiple fronts, Rep. DeGette has played a leading role in overseeing the nation's health care agencies while working to lower health care costs for hard-working Americans.

Congressional perspectives: Rep. Rich McCormick, MD, MBA (R-Ga.)
11:30 a.m.–noon
Independence Ballroom A



A Marine and Navy veteran and emergency room physician, Rep. Rich McCormick, MD, MBA, represents Georgia's 7th Congressional District.

During his more than 20 years of military service, Rep. McCormick, who deployed to combat zones in Africa, the Persian Gulf and Afghanistan, earned the rank of commander in the Navy and served as department head for emergency medicine in Kandahar, Afghanistan.

Rep. McCormick serves on the House Armed Services Committee and the House Science, Space, and Technology Committee. He earned his Master of Business Administration from National University and his medical degree from Morehouse School of Medicine in Atlanta, where he was honored to serve as student body president.

Lunch
Noon–12:30 p.m.
Independence Ballroom B–E

Afternoon: Free for Hill visits

All speakers and times are subject to change.