

## ***4 THINGS YOU CAN DO OVER AUGUST RECESS TO EFFECTIVELY ADVOCATE AT HOME***

### **1. Schedule a meeting with your member of Congress and your state's two senators.**

- Letters and phone calls are great but nothing is as effective as a personal meeting.
- Call the area district offices of your member of Congress and two senators to schedule a meeting. If the member of Congress is unable to meet, ask to meet with the district director or state director.
- Bring 10-15 of your colleagues – great numbers show strength.
- Tell your side of the story – study the provided talking points – learn the position of your member of Congress and senators – be prepared to counter their arguments - leave no card unturned.

### **2. Attend a town hall meeting with your member of Congress and your state's two senators.**

- Call the area district offices of your member of Congress and two senators and ask for the town hall meeting schedule.
- Invite your colleagues and clients to attend – create a presence at the meeting.
- Speak-up at the meeting and tell the member of Congress about the important role of independent insurance agents and brokers in the sale and delivery of health insurance.

### **3. Engage your clients, local chamber of commerce, rotary, and civic organizations in the grassroots campaign.**

- Educate your clients about the repercussions of a government-run health insurance plan.
- Ask your clients to participate in IIABA Grassroots activities.
- Attend the monthly meetings of your chamber of commerce, rotary and other civic organizations – speak-up and spread the word to anyone and everyone who will listen.

### **4. Write a letter to the editor of your local newspaper.**

- Many newspaper editorial pages from across the country have been touting the alleged benefits of a public plan (“government-run health insurance plan”).
- It is your responsibility to set the record straight – even if your newspaper has yet to touch on the subject.
- Personalize and tailor your own letter to the editor but feel free to use the national facts and figures provided by IIABA.