

Process Flowchart for Legislative Initiatives

MAPPS Entities Influencing Legislative Initiative

Membership

Task Forces

Legislative Affairs Committee (LAC)

Board of Directors

MAPPS Staff

Source of Legislative Initiative

Membership

Task Forces

Government

Types of Legislative Initiatives

Common Cause: (example)

Congressional Staff alerts MAPPS that a reauthorization bill is due for Congressional consideration the following year. A common cause initiative can be addressed in the normal, approved process flowchart.

Special Cause: (example)

Congressional Staff asks for MAPPS to draft a letter of support or amendment language regarding a bill under consideration that week. A special cause initiative requires an immediate, ad hoc, response.

Annual Legislative Cycle

Summer Meeting (July)

Prepare and deliver report to membership on previous year's legislative activity.

- Receive input at summer meeting from membership, Task Forces, and MAPPS staff on new and existing legislative initiatives.
- The period from August to mid-October will be used by the MAPPS staff to develop draft legislative initiatives (language) from input received during summer meeting.

Task Forces are renewed, assembled or dissolved by President and approved by Board of Directors. Task Forces meet during the summer and winter conferences; and at other times as necessary, to fulfill their Task Force mission and goals. Task Forces work on one issue; analyze issue, and make recommendations to Board of Directors, LAC, and MAPPS Staff. (Individual Task Forces are not standing, but are dissolved as issue resolves or by Presidential action.)

Fall Meeting (November)

- LAC members will receive, by mid-October, the draft legislative initiatives (language) developed by the MAPPS staff for review and comment.
- Fall meeting will be established for LAC members to develop consensus on the final legislative initiatives that will be recommended to the Board of Directors.

Legislative initiatives will be sent to the Board of Directors, prior to the winter meeting, for their review and comment. LAC and MAPPS staff will address board comments and modify legislative language if necessary.

Winter Meeting (January)

- Legislative initiatives will be presented to Board of Directors for final approval.
- Final board approved legislative initiatives will be presented to the membership at the winter meeting.

Draft documentation packages will also be presented to membership. Draft documentation packages will include:

- (1) Bill language
- (2) Letters of support to congressional delegations
- (3) One page summaries for presentation to congressional delegation at the March Federal Programs Conference

At the meeting, the membership will be asked to advocate the initiatives by signing letters of support to their congressional delegation. LAC comments, along with member input from the meeting, will be assembled to develop final summary presentations with MAPPS staff. All initiatives approved by the Board of Directors will be available in the MAPPS conference office for membership review. Support letters for specific initiatives will be available for member signature. LAC members, along with MAPPS staff, will be available to answer questions as needed.

Federal Programs Conference (March)

- Present legislative initiatives to congressional delegations.

NOTE:

Additional special cause legislative initiative may occur throughout the year; those initiatives will be absorbed into the legislative cycle, and validated through the Board of Directors and the LAC to determine whether the initiatives are worthwhile.