

Help DOs Shine in '09

Osteopathic Physicians Day at the State Capitol

Wednesday, March 11, 2009

Be part of our continued success in Springfield! Annual state lobby day is March 11th.

Each year the Illinois General Assembly considers thousands of bills that often become law and affect every aspect of our professional practice and daily lives. **These bills can change the scope of practice for physicians and allied professionals, impose inappropriate mandates, or otherwise impact access to quality health care and pharmaceuticals for your patients.** Some deserve our support and others need the physicians' perspective to make them better bills, but some bad ideas need to be stopped. It is essential that DOs and their advocates are visible to ensure the osteopathic voice is heard before these bills become law. One day truly can make a difference. Join us this March 11, 2009: DOs, medical students, their spouses/partners/advocates are all welcome!

There is NO charge for the lobbying training session including luncheon or the legislative reception at the Sangamo Club, but to ensure we make the most effective use of our resources, IOMS asks that you **reserve your space** in advance at IOMS@IOMS.org or (800) 621-1773, ext. 8174. If you cannot attend in person, please send a donation to the IOMS political action committee to help defray expenses for this free event. SCOPE: Special Committee for Osteopathic Political Education, at 225 E. Cook Street, Springfield, IL 62704, (217) 789-3252, betsy@cook-witter.com.

We could not offer this important opportunity at NO charge without the generous support from our co-sponsors: SCOPE, Midwestern University-CCOM Alumni Relations, and the American College of Osteopathic Family Physicians - IL Chapter.

The tentative* schedule for a day at the Capitol could look something like this:

- 11 AM Arrive Springfield for Legislative Briefing & Lunch at the Sangamo Club, 227 E. Adams, Springfield, www.sangamoclub.net.
A bus both to and from the CCOM campus is available, also free of charge – departs 7:30am, returns approx. 10:00pm. For advance reservations: IOMS@IOMS.org. Possible bus from Carbondale if sufficient rider – reserve now.
- 12:30 PM Meet with Your Legislators to Discuss Issues Key to DOs. State Capitol
- 4 PM De-briefing with our lobbyist and fellow DOs and students. Sangamo Club.
- 5–7 PM Legislative Reception at the Sangamo Club

* Every day is different at the Capitol in Springfield, so it is impossible to provide a precise schedule for the day. Depending upon the Legislature's schedule for March, it could be necessary to change a few things that day. Therefore, the key word for the day is *flexibility*.