

The Congressional Hearing Health Caucus

The CHHC is dedicated to providing an educational forum for discussion and exchange of ideas on issues involving hearing health. Since its inception, the CHHC and the National Campaign for Hearing Health have presented quarterly briefings on the Hill on topics ranging from community-based and educational resources and services to hearing technology, such as hearing aids and cochlear implants, and the Individuals with Disabilities Act and its impact on children with hearing loss. As an organizational member of the CHHC Advisory Committee, SHHH supports the educational and informational mission of the CHHC.



Congressional Hearing Health Caucus Members

Co-Chairs of the Caucus:

Representative Jim Walsh (R-NY)
Representative Lois Capps (D-CA)
Representative Carolyn McCarthy (D-NY)
Representative Jim Ryun (R-KS)

Other Caucus Members*:

Senator Hillary Clinton (D-NY)
Senator Ben Nighthorse Campbell (R-CO)
Senator Daniel Inouye (D-HI)
Senator Tom Harkin (D-IA)
Senator Joseph Lieberman (D-CT)
Representative C.W. Bill Young (R-FL)
Representative Ileana Ros-Lehtinen (R-FL)
Representative Michael Bilirakis (R-FL)
Representative Donald M. Payne (D-NJ)
Representative Adam B. Schiff (D-CA)
Representative John B. Larson (D-CT)
Representative Jim Ramstad (R-MN)
Representative Tim V. Johnson (R-IL)
Representative Howard L. Berman (D-CA)
Representative Adam Smith (D-WA)
Representative Frank Pallone, Jr. (D-NJ)
Representative Betty McCollum (D-MN)
Representative Joseph Hoeffel III (D-PA)
Representative Vernon Ehlers (R-MI)
Representative Rosa DeLauro (D-CT)
Representative Maurice Hinchey (D-NY)

**For the newest additions to the CHHC,
please call us or visit our website.*



*Representative Adam Schiff shares his
viewpoint at a CHHC event.*

Congressional Hearing Health Caucus Advisory Committee

- Alexander Graham Bell Association for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing (AG Bell)
- American Academy of Audiology (AAA)
- American Academy of Otolaryngology-Head & Neck Surgery (AAO-HNS)
- American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA)
- Auditory-Verbal International (AVI)
- Cochlear Americas
- Hearing Industries Association (HIA)
- International Hearing Society (IHS)
- National Court Reporters Association (NCRA)
- Self Help for Hard of Hearing People (SHHH)
- Siemens Corporation

The National Campaign for Hearing Health was launched in March 1999 by Deafness Research Foundation, the nation's largest voluntary health organization devoted to research and public education related to hearing loss and hearing health.



Deafness Research
Foundation
National Campaign for
Hearing Health

For more information, contact:
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202.289.5850
www.drf.org and www.hearinghealth.net



The Congressional Hearing Health Caucus

What is the CHHC?

The Congressional Hearing Health Caucus (CHHC) was founded in January 2001, and is a bipartisan, no-dues caucus of members of Congress committed to the support of hearing health issues. The CHHC holds luncheon briefings periodically, bringing to Congress the nation's most prominent scientists, surgeons, physicians, and business and lay leaders. Presenting the latest research, findings, and technological advances, speakers explain how this information directly contributes to the detection, intervention, prevention, and research of hearing health issues.

What role can I play in the CHHC?

As a member of the Congressional Hearing Health Caucus, you will:

- Represent more than 28 million Americans dealing with some form of hearing loss
- Have an impact on the lives of the more than 12,000 deaf and hearing impaired babies born each year in the United States
- Support legislation and funding for research, as well as educational and community-based services in the area of hearing health
- Be party to up-to-the-minute technology, advancements, and statistics surrounding hearing health issues



CHHC Co-Chairs Carolyn McCarthy and Jim Walsh offer their ideas and support for hearing health issues.



Co-Chairs Jim Ryun and Lois Capps during a CHHC event, where camaraderie goes hand-in-hand with business.



Why was the CHHC created?

- To broaden support and knowledge of hearing health issues throughout Congress in a bipartisan manner
- To inform and educate the Congress about potential and actual advances in hearing healthcare made by our investment in medical and biotechnological research
- To provide an educational forum for discussion and exchange of ideas on issues involving hearing health
- To maintain America's leadership in world markets through medical, audiological, and otologic research and resulting biotechnology enterprises
- To help Caucus Members develop a coalition of support for policies and legislative proposals that promote hearing health nationally
- To monitor and evaluate federal programs and agencies to ensure that adequate resources are directed toward the improvement of services for all hearing health issues
- To ensure that birthing hospitals nationwide screen all newborns for hearing loss and discuss appropriate treatments with parents
- To raise awareness of the harmful effects of "toxic noise" that damage hearing
- To make quality treatment and devices accessible and affordable to all who choose to alleviate hearing loss
- To fund important scientific and technological research in the areas of hearing and deafness to ensure that major breakthroughs continue