

Speaker Information
Health and Human Services Appropriations Subcommittee
February 1, 2007

Dr. George Weiner, M.D., Director, Holden Comprehensive Cancer Center

Department/Organization: University of Iowa

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Bio: George J. Weiner, M.D. is the Director of the Holden Comprehensive Cancer Center at the University of Iowa. He is also the C.E. Block Chair of Cancer Research, Professor of Internal Medicine, and a faculty member in the Interdisciplinary Graduate Program in Immunology at the University of Iowa.

Dr. Weiner obtained his undergraduate education from Johns Hopkins University, his medical degree at The Ohio State University, his Internal Medicine Training at the Medical College of Ohio and his Oncology and Hematology training at The University of Michigan where he also trained in tumor immunology. He has been a faculty member at the University of Iowa since 1989. Dr. Weiner is board certified in Internal Medicine, Hematology and Medical Oncology. In 2000 he led the Holden Comprehensive Cancer Center to recognition as a National Cancer Institute-designated Comprehensive Cancer Center, one of 39 such centers in the United States.

Dr. Weiner remains an active clinician and cancer researcher. His research focuses on use of the immune system to treat cancer. He is the Director of the University of Iowa / Mayo Clinic Specialized Program of Research Excellence (SPORE) in lymphoma, one of three lymphoma SPORE grants funded by the National Cancer Institute. The SPORE is designed to use scientific advances from the laboratory to develop new approaches to the prevention and treatment of lymphoma. He is also the principal investigator of additional research grants from the National Cancer Institute and the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society in the field of immunotherapy of cancer.

Dr. Weiner is a member of the Board of Directors of the Association of American Cancer Institutes, a member of the governmental affairs committee of the American Society of Hematology, and a member of the National Cancer Institute committee that determines which cancer centers will be formally recognized and funded by the National Cancer Institute.

Dr. Weiner serves as Chair of the State of Iowa Comprehensive Cancer Control Consortium. He is a strong advocate for enhancing the interactions between academic cancer research centers and community cancer control advocates, and using their combined strengths to decrease the suffering and death from cancer.

Karla Fultz McHenry, Iowa Medical Society

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Bio: Karla Fultz McHenry is the Vice President of Public Policy and Advocacy for the Iowa Medical Society. She directs state legislative lobbying efforts and serves as a liaison to executive branch agencies and external organizations. She is responsible for the development of IMS policy positions and provides oversight to congressional activities and advocacy. Prior to coming to IMS in 2001, McHenry worked for the Iowa Department of Human Services for 15 years and served six years as the Legislative Liaison.

Theodore J. Boesen, Jr.

Ted Boesen is the Executive Director of the Iowa/Nebraska Primary Care Association in addition to functioning as the Chief Executive Officer of the integrated service delivery network of health centers, INConcertCare, Inc. He manages the day-to-day activities of the two inter-related corporations. Ted works directly with the Board of Directors to establish long-range planning programs, manage federal-state relations, ensure fiscal integrity, and oversee program activities for the bi-state corporations. Ted has served as Executive Director since July 2000.

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Mary Rose Corrigan, RN

Mary Rose Corrigan is a Registered Nurse and the Public Health Specialist for the City of Dubuque Health Services Department. Mary Rose has worked on numerous public health projects and policies within the Dubuque community and the state. Mary Rose has served on the Crescent Community Health Center (formerly TriState Community Health Center) board of directors since 2003.

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Steve Ackerson, Executive Director, Iowa Health Care Association

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Bio: Executive Director of the Iowa Health Care Association (IHCA) and Iowa Center for Assisted Living (ICAL) for over 9 years

IHCA/ICAL membership total exceeds 550 members throughout the state of Iowa

IHCA /ICAL membership includes nursing facilities, assisted living, elder group homes, hospice, home health agencies, and other elderly waiver services providers

ICAL's assisted living membership 150 of the 238 facilities in Iowa

Lisa Uhlenkamp, Director of Assisted Living, Iowa Health Care Association

Bio: Director of Assisted Living and Alternative Services for IHCA/ICAL for over 3 years

Former nursing home administrator and director of nursing for various nursing facilities in Iowa

Gina Shelley, ResCare, Inc.

Bio: Gina Shelley has been employed in the human services field since 1986. She currently Works for ResCare, Inc. as a service coordinator of a recovery center in Des Moines for persons with serious mental illness. Ms. Shelley is a graduate of the Peer Support Training Academy and serves on the legislative and advisory committee of that project. She received her degree in Bachelors of Liberal Arts from the University of Iowa. Ms. Shelley lives in Adair County with her husband and three year old daughter. Ms. Shelley is committed to educating others about the impact of mental illness and the value to society of fully integrating individuals with mental health disabilities. This includes having equal access to healthcare and opportunities to have a valued role. Ms. Shelley is willing to share some of her own story as a means to help others become conscious of the needs and strengths of persons who have mental illness and the importance of having insurance coverage to treat those particular illnesses.

Brock Wolff, Chief Executive Office, Orchard Place

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Bio: Brock is the Chief Executive Officer of Orchard Place, joining the organization in October 2004. His career has included being the President/CEO of Family Resource Centers in Lima, Ohio; Executive Director of Vantage Health Plans in Sandusky, Ohio; and various leadership positions within Southeastern Mental Health Center in Sioux Falls, South Dakota. Brock earned his Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science and History from the University of South Dakota and his law degree from the University of South Dakota School of Law.

Kate Walton, Vice President of Government and Public Relations, Orchard Place

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Bio: Kate serves as the Vice President of Government and Public Relations at Orchard Place, after joining the organization in July 2005. She previously served five legislative sessions as the Legislative Liaison for the Iowa Department of Human Services. Kate earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Family Social Science and her Master's degree in Education and Human Development, both from the University of Minnesota.

Margaret Stout, National Alliance for the Mentally III

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Bio:

Paula Dierenfeld, Federation of Iowa Insurers

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Bio: Paula Dierenfeld is a shareholder in the Nyemaster Goode Law Firm in Des Moines, Iowa. Paula joined the law firm in June of 1999. Paula's principal areas of practice include

administrative law, utilities law, and legislative representation. Paula also serves as the Executive Director of the Federation of Iowa Insurers.

Prior to joining the firm, Paula served as a Board Member on the Iowa Utilities Board (IUB) from September of 1997 to April of 1999. Prior to her appointment to the IUB, Paula served for nearly nine years in the Iowa Governor's office as the Governor's legal counsel and administrative rules coordinator. In that position, she also served as the Governor's policy advisor in the areas of health, human services, and criminal justice. Previously, Paula held positions as director of the Republican Research Staff in the Iowa Senate and staff assistant to U.S. Senator Charles Grassley.

Paula received her Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Northern Iowa and her law degree from Drake University Law School.

Bruce Buchanan, Wadle and Associates