

HOPE Conference

December 16, 2020

I Can Influence Public Policy??

Jeri A. Milstead
PhD, RN, NEA-BC, FAAN
ANA Hall of Fame
Senior Nurse Consultant

What Is Public Policy?

1. Agenda setting
2. Government response
 - a. Legislation
 - b. Regulation
3. Policy/Program Design, Implementation, Evaluation

Policy Process

1. Non-linear, 'messy'
2. Can get involved at many points
2. Political: art of relationships
3. Nurse stories, nurse voice

What Issues?

Who's Agenda?:

1. Cabinet: (15+) Agr, Commerce, Defense, Ed, HHS, Homeland Security, HUD, Interior, Labor, State, Transportation, Treasury, VA, & Attorney General
2. Agenda: who gets the money!
3. Clinton: economy; GW Bush: defense (911); Obama: healthcare; Trump: ??; Biden: TBA

Current Issues

1. COVID-19
2. Healthcare
3. Economy
4. Schools
5. Climate Change

What can I do?

1. Pay attention to issues: via professional association, specialty organization, etc.
2. If involves your practice: analyze bill/law

How to Analyze a Bill #1

1. Sponsors – Numbers? Leadership?
Party? Personal support?
2. Opposition – Who didn't sign on?
Strong/weak?
3. Content – Timeliness? Focused?
'Pet' project?
4. Timeline? Outcomes (effectiveness)?

How to Analyze a Bill #2

Follow the Money

1. Check budget (always anticipated spending): President's budget or Congressional budget?
2. Check appropriations – how much money actually allocated; Reconciliation
3. Budget games: Diversion, Tokenism, Stalling, Change goals, Reputation

You also can:

3. Become the contact for your policy maker
4. Lobby, gather data
5. Collaborate, build a network
6. Testify

You need:

- 1. Persistence – policy-making is a marathon, not a sprint
- 2. Honesty, integrity – NEVER lie to a policy maker
- 3. To know your opposition: Prepare rebuttal; realize opposition may be supporter on another issue

Book – 7th edition

1. Since 1999
 - a. 5 PhD Pol Sc, added Legis. & Regul.
 - b. Research/Theory-based: a ‘first’
 - c. Experienced authors
2. New content: economics/finance, IP, informatics, enhanced global chapter
3. Interactive: Case Studies, Discussion Points, Learning Activities

Personal

Diploma→'refrigerator nurse'→OSU (70s)→
sudden death→SC (Clemson, SCBON, UGA),
→DKI→Netherlands→Duquesne→Book→
FAAN→MCO/UT→'retired'→Late love→
Consultation, Book 7, Tribal Elders, Hall of
Fame.....?????

Q & A