



GMCA in DC

AMCA 2025 Washington Conference Updates



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Conference Schedule

- Monday, May 12th 2025 – Travel to DC
- Tuesday, May 13th 2025 – Prep Day
- Wednesday, May 14th 2025 – Capitol Hill Day
- Thursday, May 15th 2025 – Return to GA

Advocacy vs. Lobbying

- Advocacy and lobbying share the common goal of promoting a cause or influencing public policy, but they differ in their approaches.
- Advocacy encompasses a broader range of activities, such as **public education**, **community organizing**, and **providing information to policymakers**. It aims to **raise awareness** and build support for an issue without directly influencing specific legislation.
- On the other hand, lobbying involves direct communication with policymakers to influence their decisions on specific legislation or regulations. While both are essential for driving change, advocacy focuses on building a foundation of support, while lobbying centers on direct engagement with policymakers to achieve specific legislative outcomes.
- While all lobbying is advocacy, not all advocacy is lobbying.

2025 Legislative Priorities



American Mosquito Control Association Legislative Priorities

AMCA is a non-profit scientific, educational, and professional association. Our mission is to enhance health and quality of life through the suppression of vector-transmitted diseases and the reduction of mosquitoes and other pests by providing leadership, information, collaboration, and tools.

ISSUE

AMCA supports an increase in funding for **CDC's Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity Grants** to support nationwide mosquito and other vector borne disease surveillance.

ISSUE

AMCA supports reauthorization of the **SMASH Act, PAHPA Act**, and the **Kay Hagan Tick Act** to protect public health.

2025 Legislative Priorities

ISSUE

AMCA supports efforts to enhance the role of **USDA's Office of Pest Management Policy (OPMP)** in the 2024 Farm Bill.

ISSUE

AMCA supports swift enactment of a **2024 Farm Bill** containing regulatory relief for pesticide users.

ISSUE

AMCA supports swift reintroduction and passage of the **Reducing Regulatory Burdens Act**.

ISSUE

AMCA opposes restrictions on access to **Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS)** that are critical for mosquito monitoring and control.

ISSUE

AMCA supports the use of **Integrated Mosquito Management** on or near cannabis, hemp, and organic farms.

ISSUE

AMCA supports the enactment of the **Special District Fairness and Accessibility Act**
H.R 2776

Pre-Hill Preparations

8:00 am – 8:30 am	Breakfast
8:30 am – 8:35 am	AMCA President's Welcome – Herff Jones, AMCA President
8:35 am – 8:45 am	Introductions and Recognition – Kristen Healy, PhD, AMCA Past President, Washington Conference Program Chair
8:45 am – 9:15 am	AMCA Issues Overview – ESA reform, pesticide registration, NPDES, drone legislation, special districts, and funding requests – John Goldberg, PhD, Partner, The Normandy Group and Dan Markoski, PhD, Technical Advisor, AMCA
9:15 am – 9:45 am	The Endangered Species Act – Lauren Bailey, Wildlife Biologist, United States Fish and Wildlife Service
9:45 am – 10:00 am	Break
10:00 am – 10:30 am	The Vector Borne Disease Network – Erin Cadwalader, PhD, Director of Strategic Leadership and Policy, Entomological Society of America
10:30 am – 11:00 am	CDC Regional Centers of Excellence on Vector-Borne Diseases – Melissa Nolan, PhD, MPH, Associate Professor, University of South Carolina
11:00 am – 11:30 am	The Environmental Protection Agency Office of Pesticide Programs – Speaker TBA
11:30 am – 11:45 am	An update on drone regulations – Joel Buettner, AMCA Vice President
11:45 am – 1:00 pm	Break for lunch
1:00 pm – 1:30 pm	Legislative update – Josie Montoney-Crawford, Professional Staff Member, House Committee on Agriculture
1:30 pm – 3:30 pm	Message Training – Participants learn how to effectively deliver key messages and maintain control in conversations. The RISE team reviews the latest messaging research and conducts tailored practice sessions using custom mock scenarios to ensure you feel confident applying these skills across a wide range of audiences – Kylie Gregory, Government Affairs Manager, Responsible Industry for a Sound Environment (RISE) and Megan Provost, JD, RISE President
3:30 pm – 3:45 pm	Break
3:45 pm – 5:00 pm	Grassroots Training – Take your training to the next level. This course will equip you with proven key messages and guide you on how to effectively prepare for and set expectations with legislative and regulatory audiences - Kylie Gregory, Government Affairs Manager, Responsible Industry for a Sound Environment (RISE) and Megan Provost, JD, RISE President

Capitol Hill Day

9	Meeting with Sen. Jon Ossoff 106 Dirksen	
10		
11	Meeting with Sen. Raphael Warnock's Office 717 Hart	
12 ^{PM}		
1	Meeting with Rep. Rich McCormick's Office 1719 Longworth	Drop in to Rep. Austin Scott's Office 2185 Rayburn
2	Meeting with Rep. Mike Collin's Office 2351 Rayburn	Drop in to Rep. David Scott's Office 468 Cannon
		Meeting with Rep. Buddy Carter's Office 2432 Rayburn
3	Meeting with Rep. Rick Allen 462 Cannon	Meeting with Rep. Andrew Clyde's Office 445 Cannon

Capitol Hill Day



Capitol Hill Day



2025 Legislative Status Update



2025 Legislative Status Update

Update: Kay Hagan Tick Reauthorization Act

This bipartisan legislation helps fund the research, surveillance, and operational tools we need to protect communities from vector-borne disease. Two Senate bills have been introduced to reauthorize the Kay Hagan Tick Act.

- S. 2294: Reauthorizes the expiring provisions and raises the authorization levels.
- S. 2398: A “straight” reauthorization includes no changes to funding amounts.
- H.R. 4348 and S. 2398 are identical, and it’s reasonable to assume that S. 2398 is the more likely bill to move forward.

In addition, we are making progress with building support for the Kay Hagan Tick Act. S.2398 now has 16 cosponsors (10-D, 5-R, 1-I) and H.R.4348 has 17 cosponsors (13-D, 4-R).

While we would prefer the higher authorization levels in S. 2294, it’s unlikely that appropriators will increase actual funding. With this in mind, our advocacy efforts are on supporting the straight reauthorization in H.R. 4348/S. 2398, while still making it clear that higher authorization levels would be ideal.

So what’s in the reauthorization? Here are the highlights:

- Keeps the National Public Health Strategy going – ensuring HHS continues to update and implement a coordinated approach to vector-borne diseases.
- Reauthorizes the Regional Centers of Excellence – funding cutting-edge science, training, and surveillance for another five years (funding is set to expire this year!).
- Extends CDC grants to state and local health departments – supporting data collection, early detection, diagnosis, treatment, and public awareness efforts.

2025 Legislative Status Update

Update: FY 2026 Appropriations for VBD

AMCA's advocacy efforts have delivered results! The House and Senate have released report language for the Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies Appropriations bill, which funds the CDC and NIH. While the overall bill would make significant cuts to CDC's top line, programs critical to our work are set to receive meaningful increases. Vector-Borne Disease funding would rise by \$2 million, Lyme disease programs would gain \$500,000, Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity (ELC) would see an additional \$5 million, and Advanced Molecular Detection would increase by \$10 million.

The Senate report language included strong, targeted provisions for mosquito control, nearly identical to AMCA's requests, with language supporting the use of VectorSurv. In contrast, the House report language did not contain specific VectorSurv provisions and instead placed the majority of attention on tick-borne diseases.

Despite these differences, this is a great step forward with positive language appearing in both chambers. The Senate report aligns closely with AMCA's advocacy goals, while the House report reflects favorable, though less specific, support. Both the House and Senate bills have already cleared committee consideration and the next step is reconciling their two versions of the appropriations bill.

With the preferred language already included, no additional advocacy is required from members at this time — a sign that your continued engagement and support are making a real difference on Capitol Hill!

Any Questions?

