GMCA in DC

AMCA 2026 Washington Conference Updates



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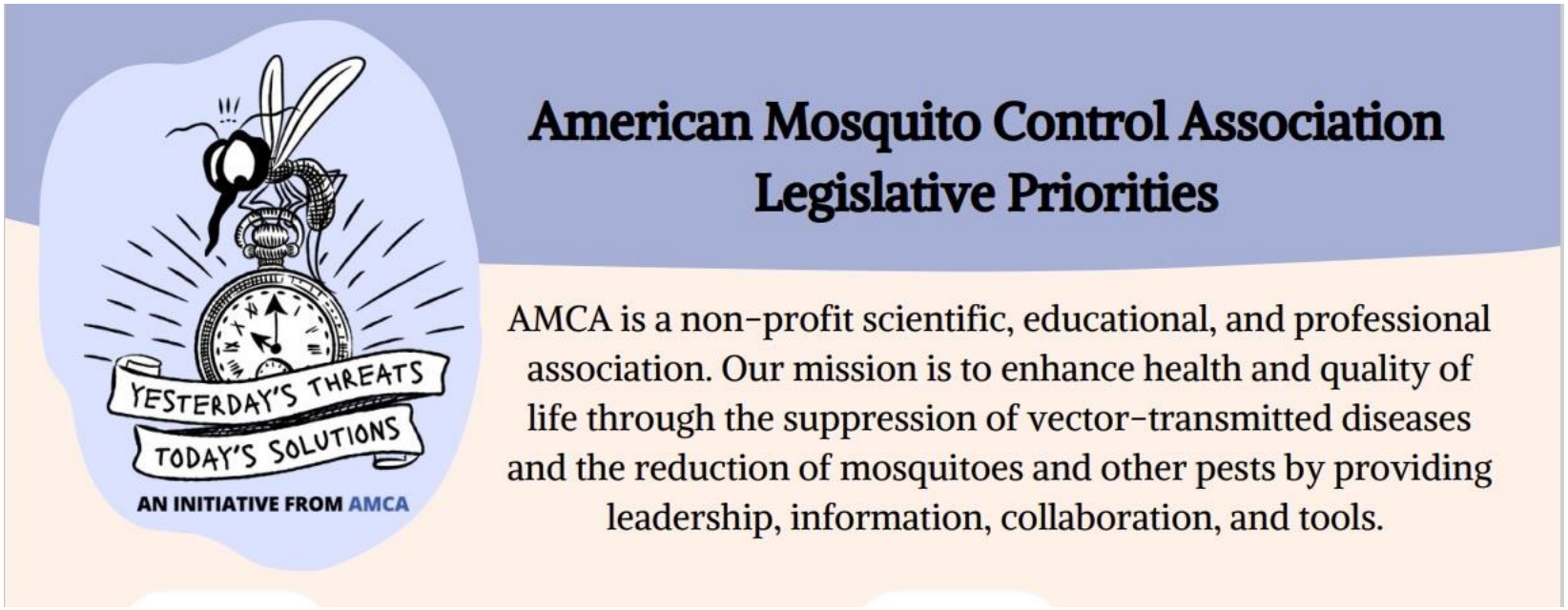
Conference Schedule

- Monday, May 11th 2026 – Travel to DC
- Tuesday, May 12th 2026 – Prep Day
- Wednesday, May 13th 2026 – Capitol Hill Day
- Thursday, May 14th 2026 – Return to GA

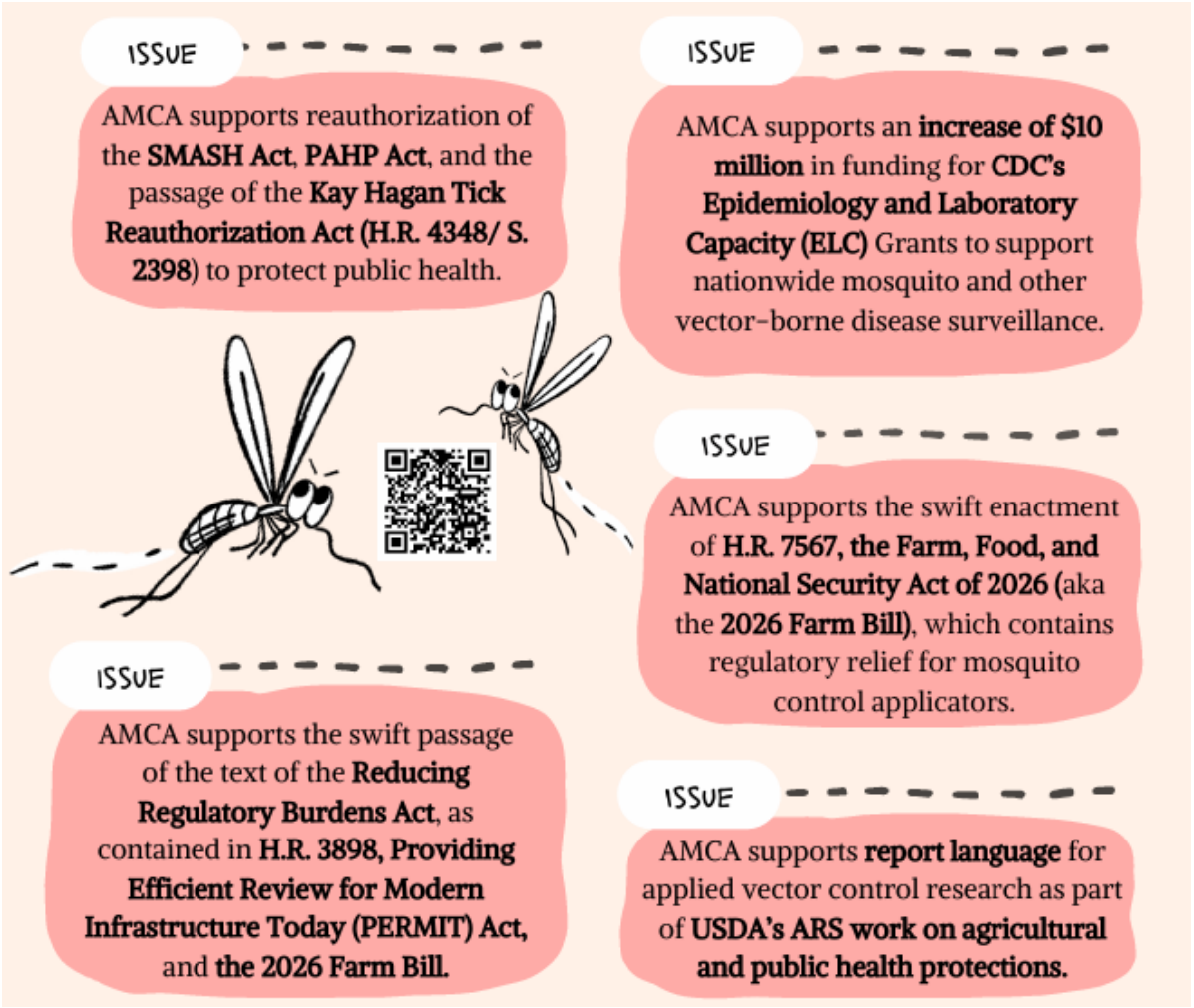
Advocacy vs. Lobbying

- 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.

2026 Legislative Priorities



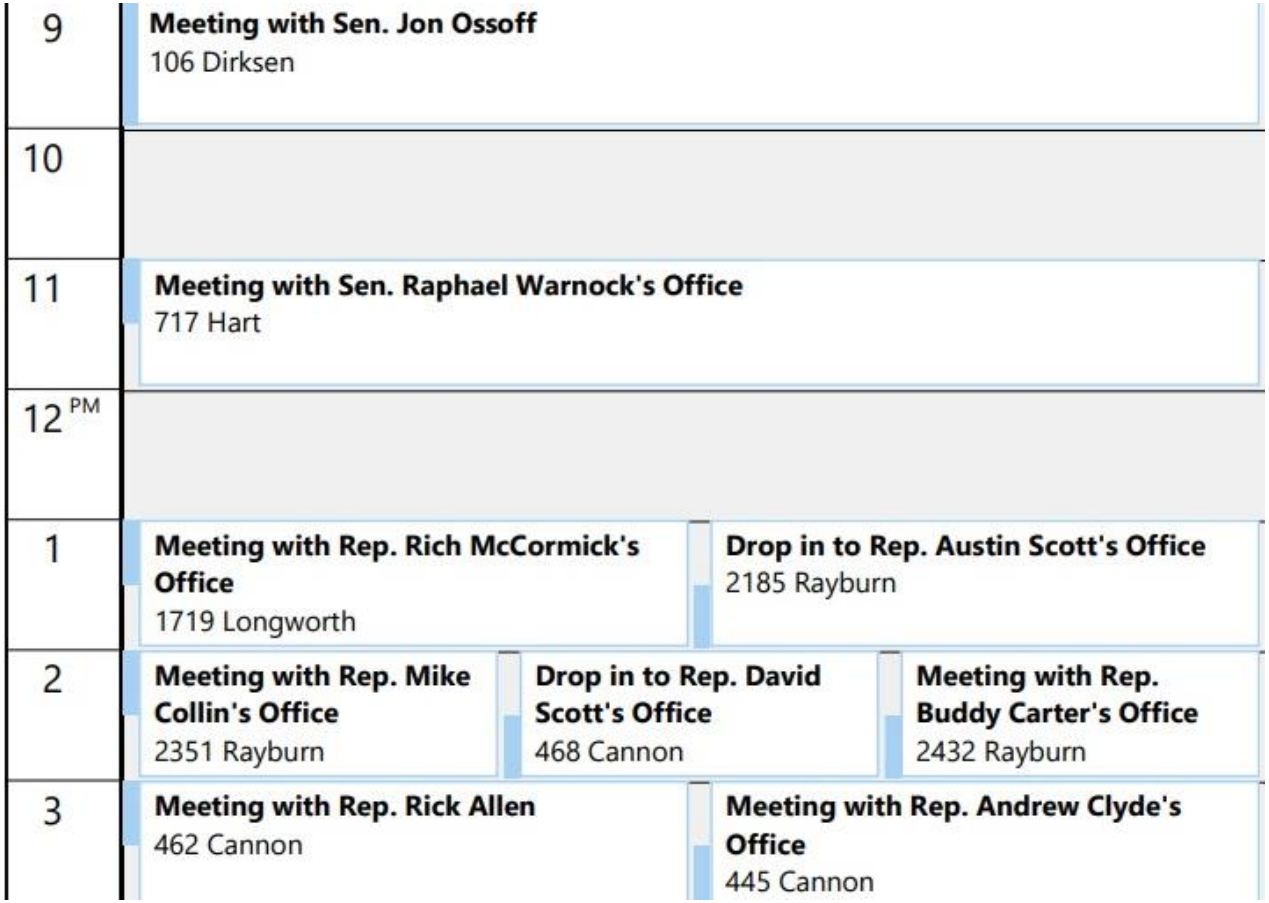
2026 Legislative Priorities



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 Markoswki, 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





Capitol Hill Day









Capitol Hill Day



2026 Legislative Status Update

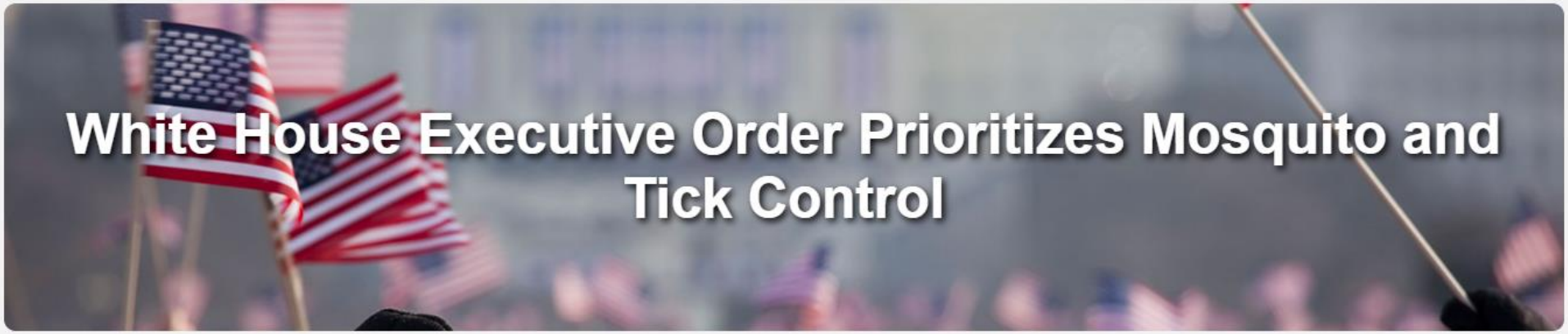


The Kay Hagan Tick Reauthorization Act has officially been signed into law by the President, marking an important bipartisan victory for the vector-control and public health communities. This action continues key federal vector-borne disease programs, including:

- The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' national strategy to combat vector-borne diseases.
- Funding for the CDC's Centers of Excellence in Vector-Borne Disease.
- Sustained grant funding to state and local health departments to strengthen vector surveillance, laboratory capacity, and public health infrastructure.

This achievement reflects sustained advocacy and engagement by AMCA members and our partners. Thank you to everyone who participated in congressional meetings, responded to action alerts, sent letters, or built relationships with lawmakers. Your advocacy helped make this possible.

2026 Legislative Status Update



On September 29, President Trump issued an Executive Order, "*Eliminating Disease-Carrying Pests and Restoring Enjoyment of the Great Outdoors*," establishing federal priorities for reducing mosquito and tick populations and the diseases they transmit. The order directs federal agencies to advance mosquito and tick surveillance and control, including the development and deployment of new technologies such as sterile insect techniques and other biotechnology-based tools. It also calls on EPA to prioritize the review and registration of novel control methods and directs federal agencies to support research into non-chemical control approaches, diagnostics, prevention, and treatment for vector-borne diseases.

The order initially establishes ambitious mosquito- and tick-reduction targets for Washington, D.C., while directing that successful approaches developed through the initiative be considered as a model for broader nationwide control efforts.

Read the full Executive Order: White House – Eliminating Disease-Carrying Pests and Restoring Enjoyment of the Great Outdoors

Any Questions?

