Making Policy our Passion:
State and Federal Nutrition Efforts

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AND/LAND PPC
Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Policy and Framework

Legislative and Public Policy Committee
- Helps guide AND’s public policy work
- Reports to AND’s Board of Directors and House of Delegates
- Receives positions and guidance of other Academy committees, task forces, workgroups
- Currently convening a task force to conduct a health care environmental scan and recommend changes to policy

ANDPAC
- The only political action committee broadly focused on food, nutrition and health
- The goal of ANDPAC is to support pro-nutrition candidates for federal office
- Eatrightpro.org/ANDPAC

Affiliates’ Public Policy Panel
- Established to engage members to affect positive policy change for our profession
- Allows for each affiliate to be a voice on policy at the local, state and federal level

DPG/MIG Involvement
Louisiana Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Advocacy

**Louisiana Public Policy Committee (PPC):**
- Public Policy Chair: Kristen Gradney, MHA, RDN, LDN
- State Policy Representative: Kathryn Fakier, MS, RDN, CSO, LDN
- State Regulatory Specialist: Glenda Johnson, RDN, LDN
- Consumer Protection Coordinator: Jennifer Duhon, MS, RDN, LDN
- Delegate: Sandy Sutton
- Reimbursement Representative: Open Position

**LAND PPW Support:** Scott Kirkpatrick - Lobbyist
- Roedel, Parsons, Koch, Blache, Balhoff, and McCollister
- Monitors legislation to identify any bills that may involve or affect RDNs
- Assist with legislator relationship building
Ongoing Activities of the Public Policy Committee

To focus and guide policy efforts, these priority areas have been identified:

- Disease prevention and treatment
- Lifecycle nutrition
- Healthy food systems and access
- Quality healthcare

- Monitoring legislation that involves RDNs or requires our support – sending out action alerts requesting action from members

- Attendance at Public Policy Workshop each year to get direction from AND on national legislative efforts and training

- Networking with legislators to inform them about our profession and the importance of an RDN
ANDPAC Support in Louisiana
State Politics
Louisiana Legislature

Structure of LA Legislature:
◦ Lower House (105)
◦ Upper Senate (39)

◦ Members of both houses serve 4 year terms with 3 term limit

◦ Get to Know Your Legislators
  ◦ They are essential for developing and supporting your position on legislation.
  ◦ Bills must have a legislator sponsor.

◦ [Your Louisiana and U.S. Legislators](#)
2016 LAND Legislative Day
Federal Politics
US Congress

Louisiana Senators:
- Bill Cassidy (R)
- John Neely Kennedy (R)

Committees Involved with Nutrition and Health Related Issues:
- Senate Finance Committee
- Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions
- Senate Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry
  - Subcommittee on Nutrition, Specialty Crops, Food, and Agricultural Research
- Senate and House Appropriations
- House Committee on Education and Workforce
- House Committee on Agriculture
  - Subcommittee Department Operations, Oversight, and Nutrition
Louisiana Congressional Districts
# Current Districts and Representatives

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>Representative</th>
<th>Party</th>
<th>Incumbent time in office</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>Steve Scalise (R–Jefferson)</td>
<td>Republican</td>
<td>May 3, 2008 – present</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>Cedric Richmond (D–New Orleans)</td>
<td>Democratic</td>
<td>January 3, 2011 – present</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>Clay Higgins (R–Port Barre)</td>
<td>Republican</td>
<td>January 3, 2017 – present</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th</td>
<td>Mike Johnson (R–Benton)</td>
<td>Republican</td>
<td>January 3, 2017 – present</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5th</td>
<td>Ralph Abraham (R–Mangham)</td>
<td>Republican</td>
<td>January 3, 2015 – present</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6th</td>
<td>Garret Graves (R–Baton Rouge)</td>
<td>Republican</td>
<td>January 3, 2015 – present</td>
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</tbody>
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Key Presidential Appointees

Seema Verma: Administrator for Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services
Tom Price: Secretary of Health and Human Services
Sonny Perdue: Secretary of Agriculture (USDA)
David Shulkin: Secretary of Veterans Affairs
Public Policy in Action
Public Policy that Impacts RDNs

CMS Rules on Therapeutic Diet Orders

Preventative Health Savings Act

Older Americans Act

Healthy Hunger-Free Kids Act

Diabetes Prevention Legislation
  ◦ Preventing Diabetes in Medicare Act
  ◦ National Diabetes Clinical Care Commission Act
  ◦ Gestational Diabetes Act
  ◦ Medicare Diabetes Prevention Act

Farm Bill

Treat and Reduce Obesity Act

Access to Frontline Health Care Act

Public Health Prevention Fund

Affordable Care Act
## 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State Legislation – LAND PPC Initiatives</th>
<th>Federal Legislation – AND Initiatives</th>
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</table>
| **HB 335 Medical Malpractice:** Covers RDNs under current Louisiana Malpractice Act (Provides a limitation of liability which limits their malpractice liability to $500,000, plus interest and costs, exclusive of future medical care and related benefits.) | • Treat and Reduce Obesity Act  
• Older Americans Act  
• Preventing Diabetes in Medicare Act |
## 2016

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>State Legislation – LAND PPC Initiatives</strong></th>
<th><strong>Federal Legislation – AND Initiatives</strong></th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>HB 642 LBEDN:</strong></td>
<td><strong>Treat and Reduce Obesity Act of 2015</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Reduces time period of provisional</td>
<td>Expands the treatment team to include</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>license from 5 years to 2 years;</td>
<td>other demonstrably qualified experts to</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Updates maximum fee schedule</td>
<td>provide IBT, such as clinical</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>HB 595 Telehealth Bill:</strong></td>
<td>psychologists, <strong>registered dietitians</strong>,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Adds Licensed Dietitian Nutritionist to</td>
<td>physician specialists and other</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Telehealth Bill that covers 28 other</td>
<td>proven effective providers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>providers</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>HB 579 Order Writing:</strong></td>
<td><strong>Preventing Diabetes in Medicare Act HR</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allows RDNs, LDNs to write orders and</td>
<td>1686</td>
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<tr>
<td>order lab tests</td>
<td>Expands Medicare coverage of MNT in</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>order to prevent/delay diabetes</td>
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2017 Issues at a Glance

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<th>Federal</th>
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<tr>
<td>• Debate over changes to health care delivery and payment</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Food assistance programs scrutinized (eligibility, separation of SNAP from Farm Bill)</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Immigration policies affecting food costs and availability</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Decreased regulation (narrowing of FDA, menu labeling, nursing mothers support, child nutrition programs are all at risk)</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Reintroduction of key legislation</td>
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</table>
Why We Need Your Involvement and Support

Opposition to Dietitians and Supportive Legislation
◦ Certified Nutrition Specialists (CNS)

Concerns from Other Disciplines
◦ Family Practitioners
◦ Chiropractors
What Can You Do?

Be a Grassroots Advocate
- Raise awareness regarding certain issues at the local level

Speak with One Voice
- An affiliate, DPG, or MIG should advocate a position consistent with the official Academy positions.

Local fundraisers for ANDPAC

Invite Your Member of Congress to Visit Your Workplace
- Notify LAND PPC so that you can receive support

Participate in your district PPC

Attend town hall meetings
What Can You Do?

Register to Vote!

Respond to Action Alerts!

Get Involved!
  ◦ Save the Date
    ◦ May 23, 2017
  ◦ State Capitol
  ◦ More information to come: www.eatrightlouisiana.org
When Policy is Your Passion...
Resources
2017 LAND Legislative Day

4 FREE CEUs!

Legislative Day
You are invited to the 2017 LAND Legislative Day at the Capitol!

May 23, 2017
Details to follow

Click here to RSVP
Deadline to register is May 16, 2017

Lunch Served
Resources

LAND Public Policy and Advocacy Page
Resources

**VoteSmart.org**
This is a great website that allows you to find all of your elected officials; from state, county, and all the way up to the U.S. Congress.

**House.gov**
This is the U.S. House of Representatives' website where you can find out who your representative is, his or her vote history, legislative calendar, committee information and more.

**Senate.gov**
This is the U.S. Senate's website where you can find who your Senators are, their vote history, legislative calendar, committee information and more.

**Congress.gov**
This is the best bill-tracking website out there! Go here and you can look up any bill by number or key word. From there you can find out sponsorship information, language and a full history of legislative action.

**www.eatrightpro.org/advocacy**
Academy advocacy website provides updates on current policy activities.
Thank you!

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