

Brain Injury Association of America



State Legislation Round Up



Brain Injury Association of America

1

Legislative Round-up

A sampling of the past years activities

- Trust Funds and other dedicated funding
 - (TN, MT, MN, CT)
- Other Appropriations
 - (NM, FL, NJ)
- Other Efforts



The Round Up,
artist Virginia Blackstock



Brain Injury Association of America

2

Trust Funds & Other Dedicated Funding

- Established through legislation
- Often funded from fees on speeding, reckless driving, DUI, and other civil convictions
- Sometimes funded from surcharges on auto license tags, drivers licenses, or firearm registrations



3



Brain Injury Association of America

3



Trust Funds & Other Dedicated Funding

- TF legislation often establishes an **advisory committee** for general oversight
- TF legislation often designates a State agency for fund, program, and service administration
- Legislation can stipulate that the TF shall be non-reverting



Tennessee

- HB 779
- Increases fines earmarked for TBI fund
- Fund administered by the Dept. of Public Health

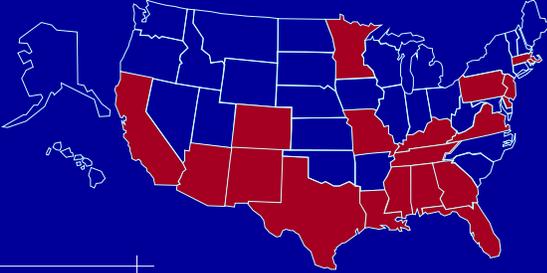


Montana

- Voluntary donation of \$1 or more on annual motor vehicle registration mailing
- Funds go into a special revenue fund for education and prevention
- Governors advisory committee oversees the TF
- Small fiscal note attached to fund advisory council meetings up to \$13,000 per year



Trust Funds



Brain Injury Association of America 7

Connecticut

- S.B. 558 Established the Brain Injury Prevention and Services Account
- Funds derived from assessments to certain vehicle offenses, such as speeding, DUI, and reckless driving
- Funding from the account allocated to the Department of Social Services **for purposes of awarding grants to the Brain Injury Association of Connecticut** to conduct education, information, and resources to individuals with traumatic brain injury and their families.



Brain Injury Association of America 8

Florida

Member Project Requests

- Know as “Turkeys”
- BIA-FL uses a lobbyist
- The BIA-FL is “named” in legislation
- The funding becomes part of the state budget and supports BIA-FL’s Family Support Program
- There are dangers



Brain Injury Association of America 9

Minnesota



- SF 411
- Increased the DUI license reinstatement by \$50 to fund resource facilitation for people with TBI
- Generates significant funds for TBI services
- Was a long and laborious process



Brain Injury
Association
of America

10

New Mexico



Faces of Brain Injury

- Grassroots campaign for funding for Medicaid Services
- Full support of House of Representative - all of whose members signed on as co-sponsors
- Legislators failed to provide money for the program in their final budget
- Advocates gearing up again this year!



Brain Injury
Association
of America

11

New Jersey



- A.B. 2878
- Gained a supplemental appropriation of \$ 3.6 million in State and federal funds to increase the number of slots in the Traumatic Brain Injury Waiver to enable the State to reduce the number of clients on the waiting list



Brain Injury
Association
of America

12

Key Points

- Advocates often work better with advocat support
- Relationships with Champions/Gatekeepers cannot be overestimated
- Change often takes multiple years
- There is more than one way to skin a pepper



13

Where to go for more information on State policy and systems change

Traumatic Brain Injury Technical Assistance Center
TBI-TAC
<http://www.tbitac.org>
"Toolbox"

National Association of State Head Injury Administrators
NASHIA
www.nashia.org
"Resources"
A Guide to State Government Brain Injury Policies, Funding and Services



14

Cheryl Spencer
BIA-TN
44 Vantage Way, Suite 550
Nashville, TN 37228
865-982-4455
erspencer@charter.net

For more information contact:

Stacy Rye
BIA-MT
(406) 541-6442
1280 S. 3rd St. West Suite 4
Missoula, MT 59801
biam@biamt.org

Tom Gode
BIA-MN
34 13th Avenue NE, Suite B001
Minneapolis, MN. 55413
(612) 378-2742
tomg@braininjurymn.org



15

Julie Peters
BIA-CT
(860) 721-8111
1800 Silas Deane Highway
Suite 224
Rocky Hill, CT 06067
julie@biact.org

Miryam Miller
BIA-NM
121 Cardenas NE
Albuquerque, NM 87108
(954) 786-2400
miryamemily@msn.com

Barbara Geiger-Parker
BIA-NJ
1090 King George Post Road, Suite 708
Edison, NJ 08837
(732) 738-1002
bgeigerparker@bianj.org

Elynor Kazuk
BIA-FL
North Broward Medical Center
201 East Sample Road
Pompano Beach, FL 33064
(954) 786-2400
info@biaf.org



16

THANKS

Geoffrey Lauer
Director of Affiliate Relations
Brain Injury Association of America

319-621-7078
glauer@biausa.org



17
