Hi All,

A final version of a floor amendment to SB1374 has been prepared to be adopted in the House Committee of the Whole (COW). We are not awaiting the scheduling of the bill for COW. In light of all the negotiations on the budget and Medicaid expansion it is difficult to determine when that occurs but we are confident it will take place. After the bill passes the House it must go back to the Senate, but Senator Barto is prepared to concur and the bill will then be scheduled for a final pass vote. After that it will go to the Governor for final signature into law.

While we do not a date scheduled yet for the bills to be heard in House COW, the final amendments with stakeholder, Board, and Governor's office changes has been finished and is ready to go. Once it is "engrossed" I will try to get it out to you all. These links contain information about the changes and when they go into effect:

Summary of S.B. 1374 (With Carter Floor Amendment) http://tpallianceofaz.org/content legislative/1374SummaryWithCarter.pdf

Summary of Carter Substitute Floor Amendment to S.B. 1374 http://tpallianceofaz.org/content_legislative/1374Summary.pdf

These can also be found in our Legislative Activities area.

Calls or emails to your state Representatives urging them to put the bills on the House COW calendar quickly would be appreciated. Remind them that continuation of the Board (SB1432) without the reform and restructuring in SB 1374 would not solve the problems with the Board. We need both reform/restructuring and continuation. Stress that this is a workforce development concern—with mental health parity in the Affordable Care Act, there will be more people who have insurance who need care. We have to ensure that everyone has access to quality, affordable care provided by licensed professionals.

To find your legislators, go here: http://www.azleg.gov/alisStaticPages/HowToContactMember.asp

To send a letter to the editor or Op-Ed piece thru Cap Wiz on our website, go here: http://www.capwiz.com/azcouncil/dbg/media/?command=state search&state=AZ

Sincerely,

Richard Poppy

Vice-President

Therapeutic Practitioners Alliance of Arizona