



## Summary of Activities for Board

Committee/Task Force/Other: **Legislative Affairs**

Date: September 7, 2006

Members: Elaine Fanwick, co-chair, Karen Griffin, co-chair, Meredith Cameron, Winnie Drayton, , Molly Cahill, Heather Hedlund, Sue Marre, Catherine Cantwell, Yvette LeCorps, Peg Murray, Jeanne Beando, Linda Young

Summary of Activities: include meetings held or planned; any action or follow-up in process; any other relevant activity

Senate Bill 1292, An Act Regarding Medical Record Retention Requirements, did not pass in the last Legislative session, but it also was not defeated. It remains in the third reading, and we continue to work with Anuj Goel, Esq. from MHA to see this bill progress and then be passed into law.

Planning is underway for MHIMA's Second Annual Beacon Hill Day. This year's event will be held on Tuesday, November 14, 2006. Watch for emails in the upcoming weeks with more specifics about this day when we get to educate and network with the Legislature regarding important Health Information Management issues.

AHIMA's Advocacy Assistant and e-alerts have helped to get the message out to the United States Senate and House of Representatives about health IT and other HIM issues through a very active letter writing campaign. Several MHIMA members who sent emails have received responses from their representatives in Washington, D.C. While Massachusetts did not have a great response from its members in writing letters, we hope that in the coming year the Legislative Affairs Committee will be able to reach more members and encourage them to send more letters to their representatives. AHIMA has made this very easy through the Advocacy Assistant, and all members are encouraged to begin searching this part of [ahima.org](http://ahima.org) frequently.

Submitted by:

*Susan M. Marre, RHIA*

Director, Advocacy and Legislative Focus