

## IHIMA Day at the Indiana Statehouse

It was a dreary, wet day in downtown Indianapolis on Tuesday, February 25<sup>th</sup>—but attending the IHIMA Day at the Statehouse was worth the effort it took to get to the State Library and then on to the Statehouse. What beautiful surroundings in both places!

We listened to speakers from IHIMA share about their passion: Advocacy. In their presentation we learned that advocacy works toward, to name a few, breaking down barriers to healthcare access, patient care, quality and affordability; and all the while supporting innovation and new ideas.

We also heard from representatives of the Indiana Hospital Association (IHA), filling us in on the 2020 Legislative Session. House Bills and Senate Bills addressing Surprise Billing, transparency in Out-of-Pocket Price Estimates, Delays in Provider Credentialing, and SB 4 which would allow the State to create an APCD (All Payer Claims Database). This data, according to IHA, “will provide comprehensive, accurate data on price, usage, and quality for all health care costs, including drug prices, physicians, free-standing providers, and more.”

The IHIMA Day at the Statehouse builds name recognition for our HIM profession with the legislators. Different representatives and senators came and grabbed a box lunch and sat down beside our group and listened.

The Day was well organized and very interesting. “Advocacy is a tool to bring about change,” is a statement on the Statehouse website. And with a “spotlight glowing ever more brightly on healthcare, the HIM profession is being called upon with increasing frequency to advocate for their expanding role in health record management.” (Quote Posted by AHIMA Staff 3/5/19.)

The legislative process section of the Statehouse website reads: “Where do you want Indiana to be? The type and quality of services provided by our state is in your hands. You can choose to make a difference by being informed and becoming an active participant with others in the policymaking process.”

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