



2011 Public Policy Agenda

The American Lung Association recognizes that public policy change – legislation, regulation and implementation – at all levels of government is essential to achieving its mission: **To save lives by improving lung health and preventing lung disease.**

The American Lung Association of the Southwest advocacy program supports government, corporate and community policies to translate that mission into reality. The Public Policy Agenda identifies major legislative and regulatory issues where the American Lung Association has demonstrated leadership or can show leadership in the future. These issues are identified because there should be opportunities for the American Lung Association of the Southwest to move the issue forward or the importance of the issue to the mission of the American Lung Association compels us to begin the work to build to the point where we can see results.

The Public Policy Agenda is designed to highlight the top priorities for the American Lung Association of the Southwest regional advocacy program for 2011.

Fighting Tobacco

- Uphold or strengthen existing smoke-free laws and tobacco control programs in Arizona, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico and Utah.
- Increase state tobacco taxes and earmark a portion of revenues for tobacco prevention and control.
- Advocate for maintaining or increasing the use of state tobacco settlement funds and tobacco tax revenues for tobacco prevention and cessation programs.
- Advocate for tobacco cessation and prevention programs that target communities disproportionately impacted by tobacco use in Arizona, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico and Utah.

Fighting For Healthful Air

- Advocate for the use of cleaner burning fuels and technologies that reduces motor vehicle emissions including bio-fuels, hybrid engines, electric motors, natural gas, propane, and fuel cell technology. Also advocate for the infrastructure to deliver the new technologies to the consumer.
- Urge Arizona, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico and Utah's U.S. Congressional delegation to support efforts to maintain and strengthen the Clean Air Act. Support efforts to maintain and strengthen the National Ambient Air Quality Standards set forth in the Clean Air Act. Oppose efforts that would weaken provisions of the Clean Air Act.
- Advocate for the use of renewable and sustainable technologies, such as wind and solar power to provide electricity.

Fighting For Healthful Lungs

- Advocate for increased government funding for Lung Cancer, Asthma, COPD and other lung disease research to find better treatments and prevention methods.
- Advocate that states adopt Lung Cancer, Asthma and COPD action plans to raise awareness and prevention, increase patient and provider education, improve surveillance, and remove barriers to care.
- Advocate for lung health programs and partnerships that target communities disproportionately impacted by lung disease in Arizona, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico and Utah.

Fighting Budget Cuts and Fund Sweeps

- Advocate against budget proposals that would eliminate or cut funding for tobacco control programs and services enacted to protect public and lung health.