



PENNSYLVANIA ACADEMY OF FAMILY PHYSICIANS

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Pa. Family Doctors Name Sen. Schwank, Rep. Baker 2014 Legislators of the Year

(HARRISBURG, PA., Feb. 28, 2014) The Pennsylvania Academy of Family Physicians (PAFP), which represents more than 5,500 physicians, residents and students of family medicine, has named Sen. Judy Schwank and Rep. Matt Baker the 2014 “Legislators of the Year” for their legislative efforts to advance the patient-centered medical home care model in Pennsylvania. They will be honored for their work at the PAFP’s 2014 Annual Business Meeting, beginning at noon on Friday, March 7, in the Aztec Room of the Hershey Lodge in Hershey.

In 2013, Schwank introduced [Senate Bill 1083](#), an act establishing the Patient-Centered Medical Home Advisory Council, which would develop a plan for a statewide medical home model that would increase care quality and lower health care costs in Pennsylvania. Baker introduced an identical bill, [House Bill 1655](#), which the House passed unanimously.

The patient-centered medical home (PCMH) is a care delivery model centered around an ongoing partnership between a patient and physician who coordinates personalized care with a team. PCMH models have also gained momentum with private insurers in Pennsylvania, including Highmark, which is expanding its initiative to include more than 1,000 primary care doctors. Highmark’s pilot data reflected a 2 percent reduction in cost, as well as fewer inpatient admissions and readmissions to hospitals.

It is with great appreciation that the PAFP honors Sen. Judy Schwank and Rep. Matt Baker with the 2014 “Legislator of the Year” award.

The Pennsylvania Academy of Family Physicians and its Foundation supports its members (including nearly 80 percent of Pennsylvania family physicians) through advocacy and education to ensure a patient-centered medical home for every Pennsylvanian. The Academy and its Foundation are the leading influential resource among family physicians and physicians in training in Pennsylvania; the primary voice on health care issues with state legislative and administrative branches of government, media and professional health organizations; and the leader on health care issues in the community.

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