The Lymphedema Treatment Act is an active bill in the current, 114th Congress, which runs from the beginning of 2015 to the end of 2016. Our House bill was introduced on 3/25/15, and assigned a bill number of HR 1608. Our House congressional leadership team is:
Representative Dave Reichert, WA-8 (lead sponsor); Representative Leonard Lance, NJ-7 (co-lead);
Representative Earl Blumenauer, OR-3 (co-lead); and Representative Jan Schakowsky, IL-9 (co-lead).
* A complete list of current House cosponsors can be seen here.
Our Senate bill was introduced on 12/8/15, and assigned a bill number of S 2373. Our Senate congressional leadership team is:
Senator Maria Cantwell, WA (lead sponsor); Senator Chuck Schumer, NY (co-lead);
Senator Chuck Grassley, IA (co-lead); and Senator Mark Kirk, IL (co-lead).
* A complete list of current Senate cosponsors can be seen here.
A PDF of the actual bill can be viewed and downloaded here.
Items for sharing information about the LTA with the general public are available here.
An information packet for members of Congress and congressional staff is available here.

What This Legislation Will Do

The Lymphedema Treatment Act (LTA) will improve coverage for the treatment of lymphedema from any cause by amending Medicare statute to allow for coverage of compression supplies. Although this legislation relates specifically to a change in Medicare law, it would set a precedent for Medicaid and private insurers to follow.

Specific goals of the LTA are as follows:

to provide comprehensive lymphedema treatment coverage, according to current medical treatment standards;
to enable patient self-treatment plan adherence by providing necessary medical supplies for use at home, as prescribed for each patient (including gradient compression garments, bandages, and other compression devices);
to reduce the total healthcare costs associated with this disease by decreasing the incidence of complications, co-morbidities and disabilities resulting from this medical condition.

The HHS Secretary has confirmed that a change in statute is necessary to allow for coverage of compression supplies. (See section above for details.) The Lymphedema Treatment Act will amend Sec. 1861 [42 U.S.C. 1395x] of the Social Security Act to enable coverage of these items under Durable Medical Equipment.
Details surrounding coverage, such as allowable quantities, etc., are not something that is written into statute. Matters of this nature are determined by policy decisions made after the legislation is passed. This allows flexibility to adjust policy as needed in the future, without having to pass new legislation.

How you can help
#1 PRIORITY – Email Congress
#2 – Call Your Senators
#3 – Call Your Representative
#4 – Congress via Social Media
#5 – Attend a District Meeting
Advocacy Training Webinars
Advocacy Handbook & Tools
Join Your State’s Team
Share Your Lymphedema Story
Tools to Increase Awareness
About our Lobby Days in DC
Act Now – Donate Today

Our Newsletter
Sign up to receive updates on the progress of the bill and how you can help each step of the way. To view past issues click here.

Current Status
Check the status of the Lymphedema Treatment Act in Congress and view the list of cosponsors.

Source: www.lymphedematreatmentact.org