

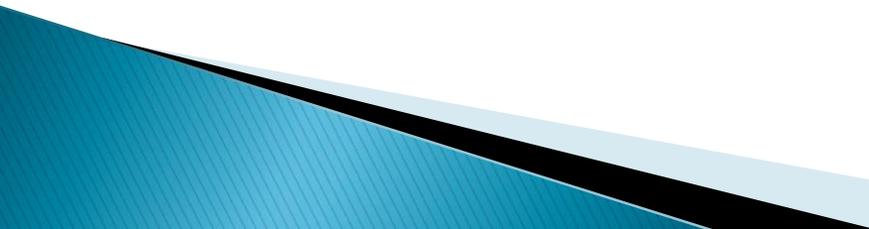
# The Politics of 2016 and the Policies of 2017: Bringing LTSS to the Forefront

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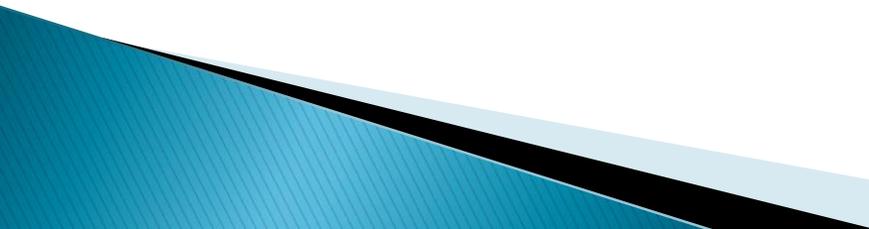
# 2016 Election: One for the Ages

- ▶ 56 days until election day and 13 days until the first debate AND California leads the nation in ballot initiatives!
  - ▶ Do you realize that it was 539 days ago when it all started when Ted Cruz announced he was running
  - ▶ So now according to Politico our election is now 6 times longer than Mexico's and 16 times longer than Germany.
  - ▶ One basic fact: these are the oldest candidates in history to run against each other
  - ▶ In the process, defeating an even older candidate whose claim to fame was his appeal to younger voters
  - ▶ First woman to head a major ticket
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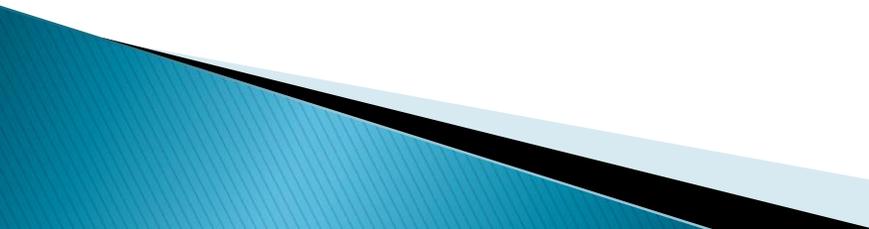
# 2016 Election

- ▶ And so much fun left to go
  - ▶ The debates: taking bets as to it being the biggest TV audience ever? Will the story be able the candidates or the moderator?
  - ▶ Can moderators take things seriously enough to ask questions about issues people care about like LTSS?
  - ▶ How close will the election really be?
  - ▶ And two things where the optics will be fascinating
  - ▶ If Clinton wins: watching the first African American President transferring power to first woman elected
  - ▶ And, if Trump loses: his concession speech
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# The General Election

- ▶ In general election mode—focus has to go to the older voter—because of their growth since 2012 (16% voting population to 23%) and their being reliable voters.
  - ▶ While at the same time new data shows that Gen X and millennials will be the largest voting bloc
  - ▶ Are older voters a swing vote in 2016?
  - ▶ Republicans have captured their votes in all elections since 2010
  - ▶ Reasons given: Obamacare—and Obama
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# What's Different This Time?

- ▶ In 2016—no Obama—and clear signs that Obamacare is helping to strengthen Medicare
  - ▶ Polls show that older voters will be all about the issues
  - ▶ To date, can see choices and confusion
  - ▶ Social Security—Trump says protect, Clinton says expand
  - ▶ Medicare—Trump says leave alone but repeal Obamacare; Clinton says move forward with ACA for stronger Medicare
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# How Does LTSS Factor In?

- ▶ LTSS discussed in 2016 with an eye toward 2017 in Congress
  - ▶ Mentioned in Republican platform: “we will make homecare a priority in public policy” or was it?
  - ▶ A section in Democratic platform: “...take steps to strengthen and expand the home care workforce, give seniors and people with disabilities access to quality, affordable long-term care, services, and supports, and ensure that all of these resources are readily available at home or in the community”
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# LTSS: The Candidates

- ▶ Clinton authored a respite care bill while she was a Senator; she also had LTSS initiatives introduced into the 2006 OAA. Helped in effort that led to NFCSP in 2000.
  - ▶ Kaine is on the Aging Committee and co-sponsored the 2016 OAA reauthorization
  - ▶ Pence expanded Medicaid but voted against the ACA and voted to repeal it
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# How to Get LTSS Noticed Now?

- ▶ Try to get LTSS question raised by media, especially at debate
  - ▶ Should have people working on policy groups for both campaigns. Sure that is now the case.
  - ▶ Both have named transition team heads; need to learn how more about who is on and how to volunteer
  - ▶ Position papers need to be developed for both now and to use later
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# 2017: The Great Unknown

- ▶ What is at stake: White House, Senate and House
  - ▶ If Clinton? If Trump?
  - ▶ New cabinet and sub-cabinet picks, no matter who becomes president
    - Health and Human Services, CMS, ACL
    - Treasury (tax policy, ACA responsibilities)
    - Head of the Domestic Policy Counsel in White House
    - Hoped for: Special Advisor to the President for Aging?
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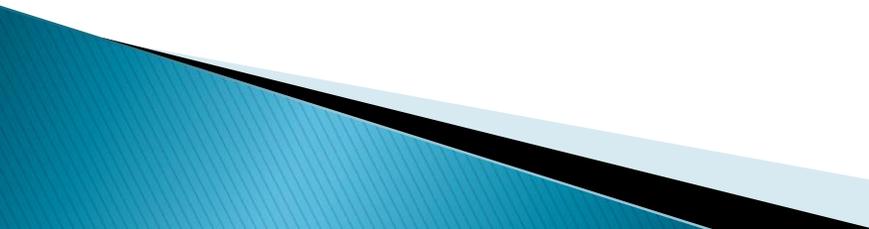
# 2017: The Senate

- ▶ Senate flip (Democratic majority) means...?
  - ▶ New majority leader would be Sen. Schumer (Sen. Reid is retiring)
  - ▶ **Sen. Boxer** is retiring, was RM on Environment. Both running to replace her are Democrats.
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# 2017: The Senate (cont.)

- ▶ Another important retirement: Sen. Mikulski! Who would replace her as new Chair/RM of Appropriations? Next up in line: Leahy, Murray, **Feinstein**, and Durbin
- ▶ Important Committees that would change hands:
  - HELP: Sen. Murray
    - Primary Health and Retirement Security: possibly Sen. Sanders
  - Finance: Sen. Wyden
  - Aging: Sen. McCaskill

# 2017: The House

- ▶ House likely status quo
  - ▶ But CA wins either way: McCarthy OR Pelosi
  - ▶ If changed, important committees to note: Ed and Workforce [OAA] (Rep. Scott), Ways and Means (Rep. Pallone), Energy and Commerce (Rep. Levin)
  - ▶ **Reps. Hahn, Capps, Sanchez and Farr** are not seeking re-election
  - ▶ Only four districts not considered completely “safe” in CA by Roll Call—so status quo for House in CA very likely.
  - ▶ Important to know about your MC and Senator and their Committee and subcommittee assignments
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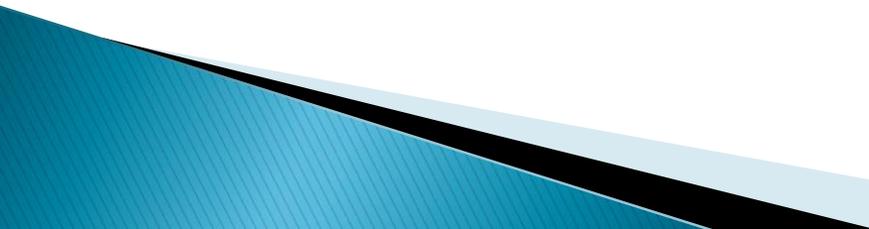
# 2017: The House (cont.)

- ▶ Other important retirements:
  - Rep. John Kline (Chair, Education & the Workforce)
  - Rep. Joe Pitts (Chair, E&C Subcomm. on Health)
  - Rep. Chris Van Hollen (RM, Budget)
- ▶ Replacements could determine future of a lot of health legislation as well as the next OAA reauthorization in a few years

# What's Next for 2017's New World?

- ▶ Budget agreement over and what follows. What happens this week key to that.
  - ▶ Managed care and implementation of new regulations
  - ▶ Future of ACA—repeal, replace, or merely reopen?
  - ▶ Or greatly strengthen—especially Medicaid expansion  
Federal role in states that have not.
  - ▶ Will we reopen the OAA?
  - ▶ Work of Senate Finance Chronic Care Working Group—  
Medicare benefits
  - ▶ Future of CMMI?
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# How Does LTSS Factor In?

- ▶ Implementation of Older Americans Act
  - ▶ Funding issues with long term care to be confronted
    - LTSS reports produced in 2016 and their role in 2017: Long Term Care Financing Collaborative, Bipartisan Policy Center, LeadingAge; ROI Calculator for Person-Centered Care from SCAN
  - ▶ Paid leave for caregivers and expanding the home care workforce.
  - ▶ Elder justice and link to LTSS
  - ▶ Appropriations for HCBS and LTSS
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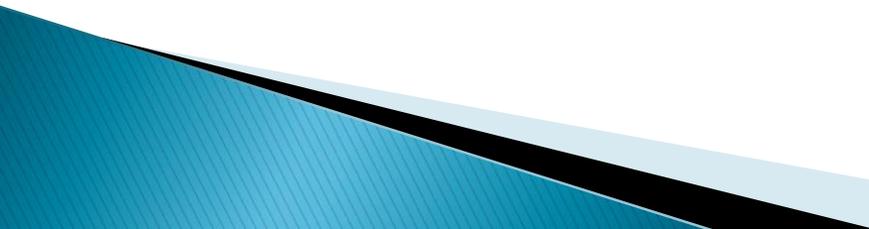
# How to Get LTSS Noticed in January and Beyond?

- ▶ Work to get assigned to relevant transition teams on LTSS
  - ▶ When cabinet and sub-cabinet positions are filled, use their confirmation hearings as advocacy opportunities
  - ▶ If appropriate, try to serve in new Admin
  - ▶ Know new people as well as the carryover career people.
  - ▶ Know Congress better—staff and members personal office and committee
  - ▶ Assume knowledge level not as high as yours
  - ▶ Prepare introduction to LTSS to anyone you are trying to reach.
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# How to Get LTSS Noticed?

- ▶ Important to localize and personalize the issue of LTSS
  - ▶ We need to work toward standardized terms (LTC vs. LTSS). Who defines evidence base?
  - ▶ Who benefits?—put in constituency terms
  - ▶ Value proposition—investment vs expenditures
  - ▶ Focus on outcomes
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# Role of Advocacy Is Key

- ▶ Advocacy is most important in time of leadership change in D.C.
  - ▶ Those who recognize there is no policy without politics fare better
  - ▶ Those who know where the pressure points are and how to apply pressure fare better
  - ▶ Advocates who recognize newly electeds, especially in Congress, come with no history on programs—need to be educated.
  - ▶ Advocacy is about the message that gets you in the door
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# Advocacy

- ▶ Advocacy in 2017 is the ultimate contact sport—make those contacts and relationships and keep them
  - ▶ Advocacy in 2017 is having something to bring to the table—being invited and not leaving early
  - ▶ Advocacy is about working together and not being late to the game
  - ▶ About picking battles that are big enough to matter but small enough to win and build momentum
  - ▶ It is about leading with your experiences and expertise to add credibility.
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# Six B's of Advocacy

- ▶ Captured in the 6 B's
- ▶ Being a good advocate means:
  - Being informed
  - Being reliable
  - Being constant
  - Being realistic
  - Being adaptable
  - Most importantly... being a resource!

# What I Learned Today



# Closing

- ▶ Bringing LTSS to the forefront should not be an aspiration, it should be a goal in 2017
  - ▶ Timing is excellent—so might the environment be
  - ▶ Framework established in the ACA to build on
  - ▶ Care coordination, innovation, quality measures
  - ▶ But need to go further
  - ▶ Financing, choice, access public/private partnership issues central
  - ▶ Ideas are out there. How to move them
  - ▶ Go from the think tank to shark tank—sell it as good policy and politics
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# Closing

- ▶ SCAN because of its history but also its uncanny ability to always look around the corner so well positioned to move LTSS to the forefront.
- ▶ Clearly the time is now or as the great philosopher Yogi Berra said—“it’s getting late early”

# Discussion