

# DMS Pharmaceutical Group, Inc. Hosts Illinois Congresswoman Schakowsky and Senator Kotowski

**D**MS Pharmaceutical Group, Inc., hosted Congresswoman Jan Schakowsky (D-III.) and State Senator Dan Kotowski (D-III.) at the company's corporate office in Park Ridge, Illinois, on November 8 in order to gain support on key pharmaceutical legislative issues.

The lawmakers received an overview of the company and the vital role distributors play in healthcare. Additionally, DMS staff highlighted key legislative proposals, including the Drug Quality and Security Act (H.R. 3204), which establishes a national pharmaceutical traceability framework; the impact of hydrocodone rescheduling proposals; and the Affordable Care Act.

Congresswoman Schakowsky focuses on healthcare and senior issues in Congress, including the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act to provide healthcare coverage to all Americans, provisions in the law to require improved review of insurance company premiums, nursing home quality protections, and initiatives to increase the number of healthcare providers.

Schakowsky is also a strong supporter of the Food and Drug Administration's recommendation that opioids and hydrocodone combination drug products be held to higher safety standards in order to cut down on abuse and save lives. Schakowsky noted that Illinois is a partnership state for the new healthcare insurance exchange, with the state of Illinois partnering with the federal government for the first year and plans to use this opportunity as a bridge to a state-based Marketplace for the second year of operation. She also praised the benefits of the Affordable Care Act, including the capping of out-of-pocket expenses as well as offering coverage for therapy, rehabilitation, and mental health.

State Senator Dan Kotowski, from Illinois' 28th District, is the Vice-Chairperson of Appropriations I Committee. He has produced results and helped shape the debate on important issues such as healthcare, property taxes, veteran affairs and public safety. Kotowski has successfully led the fight in funding for veterans with post traumatic stress disorder and requiring insurance coverage

for women at risk of breast cancer. In addition, Kotowski, who himself has epilepsy, worked with Tom Stanton, the Executive Director of the Danny Did Foundation, to put together legislation to create a national model to further sudden unexpected deaths in epilepsy (SUDEP) research to help save lives by providing accurate data in hopes of one day preventing sudden death for those with epilepsy. ☐



**From left: DMS' Jean Hawkins; State Senator Dan Kotowski; Congresswoman Jan Schakowsky; DMS' Susie Hennegan and Bill Anderson.**

**State Senator Dan Kotowski and Congresswoman Jan Schakowsky interact with DMS executives and staff members during their visit to DMS headquarters in Park Ridge, Ill.**

