

October 2011

Certification Corner

Q: Why is it important that I respond to the IAHCSSM Government Affairs Action Alert emails – and what should I do when I receive them in my email inbox?

A: It is very important that you respond to these emails. We are trying to educate elected officials about the CSSD profession and the certification issue. It doesn't get any better than having an actual constituent (YOU) send a letter to your elected officials. Additionally, when you send a letter, I am able to track it and see how many people sent letters to specific elected officials. If we have a certification bill in your state and you participate in this effort, for example, it allows me to follow up with the elected officials about your letters of support and ask them if they will support our bill.



*Government
Affairs Director
Josephine (Jo) Colacci*

When you receive these Action Alerts, please respond to them! The alert subject may request something like "Contact Your Elected Officials." This means that we need you to send a letter to your elected officials on a particular topic (which will be outlined in the body of the alert). Recently, we sent out two action alert messages. The first requested email recipients to "Send a Letter to the Editor for CS Week" and the second was "Contact Your Elected Officials about CS Week." When you receive such an email, there will be a message from me directing you on what to do first (which will, more than likely, involve clicking on "Take Action" at the top of the email). From there, you will be taken to another page that will include the letter I have drafted for you to send/submit. At the top of this page, there will be directions on what to fill out on that page (your name, address, phone number, and email). Once you have filled out that information, you will then scroll to the bottom to click "Send Message." This whole process should take less than three minutes to complete. With just a few clicks, you will be helping us get certification into state statutes.

For those of you that have responded to our messages, thank you for taking the time to do so. While it's important to note that you may unsubscribe from this email list at any time, I am hoping that you remain active and keep your email address current, so we can continue to work together to drive positive change at the legislative level. Without your help, we will not be successful in our advocacy efforts.