

## What is Governmental Policy Group (GPG) and what is their relationship to the Ohio Speech-Language-Hearing Association?



Kelly O'Reilly, Director of Governmental Affairs for GPG

Governmental Policy Group, Inc. (GPG) is a legislative and regulatory consulting firm that offers a full range of services designed to support private sector businesses and associations in dealing with national, state and local governments. In addition to direct lobbying, GPG provides numerous training and educational programs that bring their clients directly into the political process.

GPG represents the Ohio Speech and Hearing Governmental Affairs Coalition (OSHGAC). The OSHGAC is an organization that was formed in 1982 for the purpose of addressing legislative issues that affect speech and hearing professionals and the consumers of our services. It consists of four speech and hearing related organizations in the state of Ohio: the Ohio Academy of Audiology (OAA), the Ohio Speech-Language-Hearing Association (OSLHA), the Ohio School Speech Pathology and Educational Audiology Coalition (OSSPEAC), and the Ohio Council of Speech and Hearing Administrators (OCSHA).

GPG issues monthly reports to OSHGAC on all legislative activity that may impact audiologists and speech language pathologists working in all employment settings (educational settings, private practices, hospitals, clinics, etc.). They also provide general updates on trends and developments that may have a long-term impact on our professions. Many associations first become interested in legislative activities as the result of the introduction of specific issues. However, most effective governmental relations efforts are achieved by organizations which establish a long-term presence in the legislature. Both legislators and regulators appreciate working with organizations, which maintain strong, ongoing governmental relations programs. GPG provides this presence for OSHGAC in Columbus.

Kelly O'Reilly, Director of Governmental Affairs for GPG attends monthly meetings of OSHGAC and works closely with representatives of each of the member organizations in developing a rapport with both legislators and administrators. GPG has over one hundred years of combined experience, recognition and proven capability in the field of governmental relations. GPG's team consists of Brooke Cheney, Richard Hillis, Victor Hipsley, Matt Whitehead, Marie Kappes, Andrew Huffman and Kelly O'Reilly. OSHGAC is confident that our member organizations are well represented by this premier legislative consulting firm.