

U.S. Government Relations Committee



Purpose

The Government Relations Committee of PBSA is established to fulfill the goal of PBSA's model language being incorporated into appropriate legislation positively impacting the screening profession.

The Government Relations Committee will:

1. Impact legislation through greater collaboration with lawmakers and policymakers.
2. Collaborate with regulators to develop industry standards (related to FCRA compliance).
3. Increase inclusion of designated agent language in legislation.
4. Increase grassroots efforts and influence.
5. Increase capacity to create a proactive agenda.
6. Enhance strategic relationships with policymakers and regulators.

Reporting

The Government Relations Committee will report to the United States Council.

Meetings

The Government Relations Committee will meet monthly to plan for completion of goals for the current year; goals are driven by the association's strategic plan.

Configuration

The Government Relations Committee Chairs will review all sub-committees and task forces on an annual basis and ensure that staff has a current list.

The Government Relations Committee Chair term limit is typically two years.

Interested in Joining? We'd Love to Have You.

In the US Government Relations Committee, our goal is to improve the legal environment in which US members operate, with emphasis on (a) preventing harmful legislation and regulation and (b) assuring access to public record information. PBSA staff plays a large role in our committee -- Jamie Tucker of Akin Gump primarily monitors federal issues, Brent Smoyer assists with state and local issues, and Jose Dimas leads initiatives related to record-access issues. We guide the work of staff through two key meetings. The first meeting is a recurring Monday meeting with the Government Relations Committee, set to identify current issues and decide our position on these issues in addition to whether we need to take action, primarily on legislation and regulation. (Contact Brent if you'd like to join.) The second meeting, usually every other Friday, is with the Access Subcommittee, which also identifies issues and decides positions, but primarily on access to public records and identifiers within them. (Contact Jose if you'd like to join.) Both meetings run for a maximum of one hour, operate primarily by consensus, and often result in voluntary task forces to work further on specific issues that arise. Task forces meet as needed for the task but are often a commitment of only a few hours. Additionally, we host a monthly update webinar for all PBSA members who want to attend. (Contact Brent if you'd like the invitation to it.) We also organize federal and state lobbying days, where members meet with their legislators to ask them to support our industry on specific topics. (Contact Brent if you'd like to join in the fun.) While government relations sound intimidating, it really isn't. It's a learning opportunity where members can get more involved as they feel

comfortable doing so. Our success as an industry in improving the legal environment for our members depends on volunteers stepping up to help, so please don't hesitate to reach out to join the excitement! Interested, but not sure where to start? Email Brent: Brent.Smoyer@thepbsa.org and we'll go from there.