

SCLERODERMA FOUNDATION
U.S. SENATE CALL-IN DAY
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2010

On September 30th, the House of Representatives passed the *Scleroderma Research and Awareness Act* (H.R. 2408) by a voice vote. This is a huge milestone for scleroderma patients everywhere!

In order for the *Scleroderma Research and Awareness Act* to become law, the United States Senate must pass the House-passed version of this important legislation. Congress will return for a limited time between mid-November and early-mid December.

This is our opportunity to see a bill become a law on scleroderma and we need you to reach out to your Senators (2 from each state) and ask them to pass H.R. 2408 so it can be signed into law by the president.

ON WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2010, THE SCLERODERMA FOUNDATION IS ASKING ITS MEMBERS TO CALL THEIR U.S. SENATORS and urge them to support H.R.2408 as passed by the House of Representatives.

If you do not know who your senators are, (for those outside of Illinois) please go to www.senate.gov and select your state from the drop-down box. Calling works best, but if you prefer to communicate via e-mail, you can do so through www.senate.gov.

Our Illinois Senators phone numbers:

Senator Dick Durbin, 202-224-2152
Senator Roland Burris, 202-224-2854
Senator Elect, Mark Kirk, 202-225-4835

Some tips for communicating with your Senators' offices:

- 1) Identify yourself as a constituent and ask to speak with the legislator's Health Care Legislative Assistant.
- 2) Tell the aide that you are a member of the Scleroderma Foundation and **ask the legislator to push for consideration of the *Scleroderma Research and Awareness Act* (H.R. 2408) as passed by the House**, it will be important emphasize that the bill has **already passed** the House.
- 3) **Briefly** explain what scleroderma is.
- 4) **Briefly** tell them your personal story about scleroderma.
- 5) Explain that H.R. 2408 will increase federal support for scleroderma research and begin, for the first time, a public awareness campaign on scleroderma.
- 6) Give the aide your contact information and ask to be informed about the actions of the Senator on this key issue.

