



## Advocacy and Issues

ASQ plays a key role in providing reliable information on quality-related matters to legislators, policy makers, and the media. We advocate activities and legislation that promote quality in all walks of life.

As part of its advocacy efforts, ASQ has been instrumental in the expansion of the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award to include categories for education, healthcare, and nonprofit organizations. Our subject-matter experts have advised the United States Congress, policy makers, and commissions on various topics of national interest.

ASQ advocacy work is focused on these primary areas:

- Education
- Government
- Healthcare
- Various other areas of special interest

Current efforts in the healthcare arena include providing input on quality-related matters to the national debate on healthcare reform. ASQ has offered legislators a set of guiding principles on healthcare reform; provided comments on plans to establish a network of regional health information technology centers; provided comments on the concept of meaningful use as it applies to electronic health records; and conducted a forum on health IT issues for the congressional 21st Century Health Care Caucus.

In the government sector, ASQ is offering its assistance and advice to the Office of Management and Budget and its federal agency improvement officers as they discharge their responsibilities for improving the effectiveness and efficiency of the federal government.

Recently, ASQ has also urged legislators to acknowledge the value of accredited third-party conformity assessment in legislative efforts to improve food safety in the United States.

Previously, ASQ has been asked to provide input in areas such as IRS reform, transportation security, and election reform.

## Quarterly Quality Report

The ASQ Quarterly Quality Report provides a detailed look at a variety of quality-related topics and issues. The report is developed by ASQ in keeping with its role as the steward of the quality profession—to promote the use of quality as a global priority, an organizational imperative, and a personal ethic, and to promote quality concepts, technology, and tools to make the world a better place.

The report is produced in collaboration with top ASQ subject matter experts. ASQ conducts intensive interviews and research on timely news topics such as food quality, voting machine accuracy, eliminating healthcare errors, and customer satisfaction with manufacturing to determine:

- How quality measures and tools are being utilized in a broad range of industries/professions.
- How quality is being applied to ensure high quality products and services.

The report is published quarterly: March, June, September, and December.

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