



## Senior Vice President, Legislation and Political Affairs

### Jeff E. Cohen



Mr. Cohen manages the Federation's lobbying activities and is the chief Democratic lobbyist for the investor-owned hospital industry. He represents the Federation on a wide range of issues to Members of Congress and their professional staff. In this capacity, he played a leading role in successful efforts to secure the self-referral moratorium on physician-owned specialty hospitals, Puerto Rico prospective payment system equity, and nearly \$10 billion intended to help rural hospitals in the Medicare Modernization Act of 2003.

Prior to joining the Federation in December 1999, Mr. Cohen served as Senior Legislative Assistant to former Rep. Karen L. Thurman (D-FL), a member of the House Ways and Means Committee and its Subcommittee on Health. From 1995-1999, he advised Congresswoman Thurman on health policy matters addressed by the Subcommittee, specializing in Medicare access and payment issues. While on Capitol Hill, he drafted legislation to expand access to Medicare+Choice health plans, provide incentives to increase organ donations, reduce fraud in the Medicare program, and provide Medicare prescription drug coverage for organ transplant recipients. Mr. Cohen also worked extensively on veterans and military retiree health care issues, drafting legislation authorizing the National Mail Order Pharmacy program for Medicare-eligibles, and co-authoring landmark legislation reallocating veterans' program funding.

Mr. Cohen has been recognized by *The Hill* as one of the "top lobbyists" in the hospital sector. He received a Masters of Arts degree in Latin American studies from the University of Florida and a Bachelor of Arts degree in political science from Trinity University. He has studied and worked extensively in Mexico, focusing on both marine mammal biology and U.S.-Mexican political relations.