

FIRST AND FOREMOST

DO Communicate with legislators before votes, preferably early in bill process

DO Know the facts about each proposal

DO Be concise and to the point.

DO Use bill number and title when applicable

DO Mention the number of people you represent if you are a leader in your organization

DO Meet with the legislators, especially new legislators, prior to legislative session

DO Aim for friendly interchanges that make the most of the short time available

DO Find out as much about the personal background of the legislator as possible prior to contacting him/her

DON'T Try to solve all your problems in one visit. Present only those issues (no more than two) of greatest concern to you and about which your legislator can do something.

DON'T Overstay your welcome on a visit. Make your presentation brief. If your legislator wishes to prolong the conversation you will sense it.

DON'T Be disappointed if your legislator is late or must send someone else to see you, such as a legislative assistant. You will be able to accomplish just as much under these circumstances.

DON'T Be late to a meeting with your legislator