

General Tips

- * Know who your legislators are and how to contact them.
- * Make sure you understand the legislative process. Even the most basic understanding of the process will help you effectively express your ideas.
- * Contact your legislator about a particular issue before the Legislature takes action on it. Most matters coming before the Legislature are well publicized before session.
- * Use a variety of communication methods. You might choose to telephone, write, email, fax, or visit your legislator. You might also choose to give testimony at public hearings held by the Legislature. (To give testimony, you would need to contact the appropriate committee administrative assistant before the hearing to sign up.)
- * Tell your legislator what effect you think a particular bill, if it becomes law, will have on you, your children, business, or community. Be concise, but specific.
- * Be polite, even if you disagree strongly with the legislator you are addressing. Lawmakers cannot please everyone. Your communication will be more effective if you are reasonable in your approach.
- * Suggest a course of action and offer assistance. Don't make promises or threats.