



## From Clinic to Capitol : How to reach your legislators

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Legislators appreciate  
hearing from  
constituents.  
Don't forget they are  
elected to represent  
**YOUR** views

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**First contact** – a brief 1-2 sentences that communicate why you personally support or oppose a certain proposal

**Manners** - be courteous and clear when communicating with your legislators.

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## Tips For Success:



Be Specific



Be respectful



Say more, talk less



Be the information "go-to"



What is your ASK?

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### Be Specific:

You're not the only one who wants to talk to him/her

**Why** are you talking to me?"

Information, including background on the issue

What's your legislator's "stance" on your position?

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### Be respectful

Establish credibility

Be courteous, factual and professional

Speak clearly and slowly

**Remember** you represent our profession

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**Use Time Wisely**

Timing is everything:

Is action imminent? Contact effectively by phone or email. Some like texts.

Have time? Write a letter or meet with your legislator or staff

Practice your elevator speech

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**Be the information "go to"**

- Be professional
- Leave behind materials
- "I would love to be available to provide you with more information"
- Offer your card or contact information

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**ASK**

What is it you want this legislator to do for you?

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**Calling your legislator**

Introduce yourself  
Purpose of your call?  
How do you stand?  
Allow for Q & A  
State your **ASK**  
Thank you




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**Writing your legislator**

Paper mail or email  
Provide purpose, background, and pertinent information on topic  
Express your position  
**ASK**  
Spell check and/or proofread  
Offer to help them on other healthcare issues  
Thank you




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**Tips to writing your legislator**

- Identify yourself as constituent
- Know the issue
- **ASK**
- Offer additional resources or send some links pertaining to your issue




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**Meeting legislators in person**

Meet with your legislator or staffers in their offices

Once you've tracked them down, it's time to plan a strategy for your meeting

Look them in the eye

Listen to them

Why you are there and what you want

**ASK** and offer your assistance



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Whether you visit in-person, call or write, be sure to always give your legislator your name, address, email contact, and telephone number. Let them know you are one of their constituents. You are important to them.



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**Legislative update**

We have connected Nurse Practitioner to every legislator in Arkansas.

We can always use more Nurse Practitioner to connect to their legislators.

If you would like to be a part of the, "One nurse of every legislator program" please contact us.



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The legislative team is working on a survey for all Arkansas House and Senate candidates.

This survey will allow the legislative candidates to replay to be included in our Nurse Practitioners voters guide.

We hope to share this guide with ANPA members by September. We also continue to work on the Arkansas legislative agenda for Spring of 2021.



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We also continue to work on ways that we can help you advocate for Federal legislation. We would like to encourage you to continue to advocate with Federal legislators to improve access for patients who need. Continue to ask your Members of Congress cosponsor [S. 237/H.R. 808](#) which would authorize nurse practitioners (NPs) to certify their patient's need for therapeutic shoes. Encourage members of congress to cosponsor [H.R. 900](#) to allow NP patients to be counted in ACOs.



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**We Hired a lobbyist!!!!**

John Burns is a partner at Capitol Advisory Group. He is a term-limited member of the Arkansas House of Representatives, where he represented parts of Boone County for three terms. During that time, John served as the House Republican Leader from 2010-2012, as the Chairman of the House Committee on Public Health, Welfare and Labor from 2013-2014, and authored numerous pieces of legislation. He is recognized as a thought leader on insurance and Medicaid policies, regularly consulting leaders at a state and federal level. He has served as Senator Tom Cotton's political director and senior advisor in campaigns for both the U.S. House and Senate. Additionally, John is a frequent political contributor and opinion columnist for several major publications. He is a graduate of Arkansas Tech University. He resides in Little Rock with his wife, Katherine Vasil.



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