

## Calling Your Representatives



### Support may be only a phone call away!

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Calling your representative is a quick and easy way to communicate. To make your call effective, here are a few hints:

1. **Prepare:** Your call will be brief so making notes ahead of time will allow you to keep your message simple and effective.
2. **Share:** Share your story and why this issue is important to you. Making it personal shows how this issue affects you and why you need your representatives' support.
3. **Call:** You are their constituent and therefore, it is important that you share your voice on the issues.
4. **Staff:** Be prepared to talk to staff or to leave a message with them regarding your position on the issue and what support you are looking for.
5. **Be Brief:** Introduce yourself, state why you are calling, ask your representative where he/she stands on the issue, and be persuasive about why you want their support.
6. **Thank:** If your representative agrees to support your issue, thank him/her. Thank them for their time regardless of their position on the issue and tell them you will follow up with them in the near future.
7. **Reach out:** Reach out to those individuals in your network that feel passionate about the issue. A representative recognizes when an issue is important to many in their community and this can be communicated by enlisting others to call as well.
8. **Feedback:** Please provide feedback to those organizations that have been promoting advocacy efforts on the issue you have contacted your representative about. Your participation and feedback on the call is crucial to those you are advocating with.
9. **Follow up:** Be persistent. As you follow the legislation, call back to ask for specific support or action from your representative as it relates to the process.

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EIN #30-0413301