Lobbying by Phone

Step-by-Step Plan

Plan to have a call that is fewer than 30 seconds, but prepare for one that might be longer.

1. Identify yourself as a constituent, at the start of the call, providing your zip code.

2. State why you are calling and your position on the issue.

3. Refrain from using talking points or personal stories, unless the person who answers continues to engage you on the call.

4. Discuss a live issue such as an upcoming vote or time-sensitive opportunity.

5. Ask that your elected official support or oppose the legislation you have discussed.

6. Commit to following up if necessary.

Tips

- Take detailed notes during your call.

- Be polite to the person who answers the phone. Insults and mockery don’t persuade.

- Keep it brief if you have to leave a voicemail. Call back when you can.

- Participate in coordinated calling efforts when possible, but remember that your individual call counts!

For more information visit pflag.org/advocacy-101