

Tips for Effectively Communicating with Your Legislators

Here are some helpful tips for writing or emailing your legislators:

Be Clear and Concise

- Keep your message **focused** and **to the point**. Lawmakers receive many communications, so a **short, well-organized message** is more likely to be read and remembered.

Personalize Your Message

- Share **why this issue matters** to you. Whether you're a parent, professional, or concerned citizen, your **personal experience** helps legislators understand the **real-life impact** of their decisions.

Highlight Community Impact

- Use **examples, stories, or data** that show how the issue affects your **neighborhood, school, or local families**. This helps legislators see the **broader significance** beyond the numbers.

Make a Clear Ask

- Clearly state what **action** you're asking them to take—whether it's **supporting funding, co-sponsoring a bill, or raising awareness**. **Specific requests** make it easier for them to respond.

Stay Respectful and Professional

- Even if you're frustrated or disagree with a decision, keep your tone **courteous**. **Positive engagement** increases the likelihood of a **productive response** and future collaboration.

Include Your Contact Information

- Share your **name, address, and email** so they know you're a constituent and can follow up if needed. This adds **credibility** and strengthens the impact of your message.

Follow Up

- If you don't hear back, it's okay to send a second message. Advocacy is often a **long-term effort**, and building a **relationship with your legislator** can lead to stronger results over time.

Say Thank You

- Expressing **gratitude**—for their time, their service, or their consideration—keeps the **conversation open** and respectful, even when opinions differ.



United Way of Spokane County