



State Legislator Scavenger Hunt

Advocacy Toolkit

A key to effectively communicating with policymakers is getting to know them and understanding what they think is important.

The purpose of this scavenger hunt is to help you get to know your policymakers and to improve your understanding of how your state Legislature works. It is important to know the interests and priorities of your senators and representative so you can craft your stories around their interests. In fact, you may choose to develop a different story for each legislator based on the answers to the questions below.

Use your state Legislature website to help you complete this scavenger hunt. Complete one scavenger hunt for each of your senators and your representative.

Question	Answer	How does this information help me tell my story/ better understand my State Legislature?
What are the beginning and ending dates for the state legislative session?		
Can members of the public provide testimony (either written or oral) on proposed legislation?		
Does the legislator hold a leadership position?		
Is the legislator a member of the House or Senate Appropriations/Budget Committee? <i>If yes, which subcommittee(s)?</i>		
Is the legislator a member of the Education Committee?		
Does the legislator have a position/policy statement on education? <i>If yes, what are the legislator's education priorities?</i>		

Question	Answer	How does this information help me tell my story/ better understand my State Legislature?
Has your legislator issued any press releases/statements on education issues?		
Has the legislator sponsored or co-sponsored any education bills in the current legislative session? <i>If yes, what are the title(s) and a quick summary of the bill(s)?</i>		
What non-education bills has the legislator sponsored?		
What was the legislator's profession prior to his or her election to the state Legislature?		
Where is your legislator's district office(s) located?		
What online resources (such as e-newsletters/social networks) does your legislator use? How can you sign up for those networks?		
What personal items about the legislator (family, friends, community, education) may connect you personally?		