



# Legislative Training & Lobbying

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# Legislative Training & Lobbying

- Legislative Basics
- Where to Find Legislative Information
- Why get involved?
- How to get involved?
- Meeting with Legislators
- How to Testify
- Advocacy Opportunities



# Legislative Basics

- House & Senate Directory
- How a Bill becomes a law in Ohio
- How to Read a Bill
- Board-Legislature Partnership



# Where to Find Legislative Information

<http://www.legislature.state.oh.us>

<http://www.ohioschoolboards.org>



# Why get involved?

- The Legislature is considering legislation that affects your interests.
  - Budget
  - Taxes
  - Community Schools/Vouchers
  - Pensions & Healthcare
- Do you want to help shape those laws, or do you want others to do it for you?



# Why get involved?

## The Power of Constituents

- Localize legislation
- Legislators are attentive to constituents
- Board members and parents are not ordinary citizens
- You are an education expert



# Why get involved?

*Source: Public Affairs Council*

- Squeaky wheels get the grease.
- Silence means everything's OK.
- Pull the feathers that cause the goose to honk the least.
- Organized minorities beat unorganized majorities.
- You'll always be welcome at the table if you have: expertise, political support and public support for your position.



# How do we get our voices heard?

- Communication
  - Stay informed and become informative
- Establish Personal Relationships
  - Regular meetings



# How to get involved

- Decide where to start
- Decide what actions suit your availability
- Any involvement can make a difference
- OSBA can help



# Examples of How to get involved

- Contact your legislator (easy)
- Meet with your legislator (medium)
- Testify in a committee (medium)
- Start a grassroots advocacy network (involved)

# How to Testify

- Tips on Testifying before a House or Senate Committee





# Budget Advocacy Opportunities

- Budget Process
  - House
  - Senate
  - Conference Committee
  - July 1, 2011



# Budget Advocacy Opportunities

## State Legislative Conference

- March 23, 9 AM - Hyatt Cap Square, fee \$100
- Contact Laurie Miller to register (800) 540-4000
- OSBA, BASA, OASBO



**Questions?**