

A GUIDE TO CONTACTING YOUR LEGISLATORS

Contacting your legislators is a simple thing, you have three choices:

- . a phone call – if it's long distance this is the most expensive way. If it's a local call it doesn't cost you a dime.
- . writing a letter – an effective way to do it, costs you paper, an envelope and a stamp.
- . e-mail – the most effective way to do it, doesn't cost you anything.

Whenever you contact your legislators please be very cordial and polite. Be sure to talk about a bill that the person you're contacting is going to vote on – if it's a bill that's in the Assembly contact an Assembly person, if it's in the Senate contact a Senator.

Stay away from form letters; they just don't have the impact that a handwritten or typed letter does.

Here's a format that you might want to use for a letter or an e-mail:

Date: _____

Senator or Honorable _____

Their Address _____

Subject: Bill # _____ note, this can be as many as (5) bill numbers if you want

Dear Senator / Assemblyman (woman) _____

I urge you to support (or oppose) this (these) bills (give a reason or reasons if you like). (Or use whatever words you like as long as they're not offensive).

Sincerely,

Your Signature _____

Your Name _____

Your Address _____

Your Phone Number with Area Code _____

Keep a list of the bills that you've contacted someone about so you don't duplicate your efforts. If you really feel strongly about a particular bill make a single contact about that bill all by itself and lay on the reasons you're for it or against it.