

Four Basic Steps When Calling Your Legislator

1. Identify yourself

Use your name and note the organization you represent (MDHA).

State, "I am a constituent in your district..."; Feel free to add anything personal (i.e. I go to the same church as you..").

2. Explain why you are calling I am calling to support/oppose/amend HB (House Bill) ____or SB (Senate Bill) ____. Be polite and concise (to the point).

LEGISLATORS WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

YOU ARE TRAINED TO PROVIDE ORAL HEALTH EDUCATION FOR YOUR COMMUNITY

REQUEST TO BE YOUR LEGISLATOR'S "GO-TO" PERSON FOR ORAL HEALTH-RELATED NEEDS IN YOUR DISCTRICT

Create one or two talking points before you call to focus the content of your message.

3. Request a written response

If you did not speak to your legislator, request a written response to your phone call. I am calling in support of HB __ and would like to know how Rep. Jones plans to vote.

4. Thank you

Always thank the person who took the phone call for his/her time and consideration. Building relationships with staff can be just as important as with your legislator.