

The Lobbying Process: Become a Ten-Minute Education Activist



Stay informed—

Follow UEA's 'Under the Dome' page at myUEA.org/legislature. There you can read daily legislative updates from the UEA Legislative Team, follow education bills of interest on the UEA Legislative Tracking Sheet, look up contact information for your legislators and link to other important education-related information.

Contact your legislator—

Get to know your legislators and contact them on bills of interest. When you do, keep in mind the following:

- Identify yourself as a constituent (legislators listen most closely to their own constituents)
- Give the title of the bill and the bill number
- Briefly explain what the bill does
- Explain how teachers, students, schools or the community will be impacted (either positively or negatively)
- Explain your position on the bill and ask for their support and consideration of the input you have provided when they vote on the bill
- Be brief and to the point
- Express appreciation for listening and for their service

Remember, just a few calls or letters on a bill make a difference, so encourage family and friends to also contact their legislators on important issues. Letters are good early in the session. Phone calls or emails are best before upcoming votes in committee, on the floor or late in the session.

Stay involved—

Attend a UEA Educator Day on the Hill event, held each Friday during the Legislative session. At this event, you'll meet with the UEA Legislative Team and fellow educators for a briefing on current legislative "hot topics" then attend a committee hearing or floor debate. The Legislative Team will then assist you in meeting directly with your legislators. The day ends with a lunchtime "debrief" meeting of the morning's activities. Lunch is provided.

You have a powerful voice...Speak up for your students and profession!