

HOW TO EFFECTIVELY COMMUNICATE WITH LEGISLATORS



WRITTEN CORRESPONDENCE

- Introduce yourself and clearly state why you are contacting them.
- Provide specific details and support your argument using evidence-based information.
- Offer your expertise to help them make their decision.

IN-PERSON MEETINGS

- Introduce yourself and be clear about your purpose for meeting by providing specific details.
- Share your personal experience using documentation.
- Share FACTUAL information to support your position.
- Plan for follow up within two weeks and provide them with your contact information.
- Send an electronic thank you note to your legislator's office immediately after your meeting.

PROVIDING TESTIMONY

- Be your authentic self while dressing professionally.
- Bring enough copies of your written testimony to distribute to each committee member. Be prepared to answer follow-up questions and background on the issue.
- Be prepared to wait to provide your testimony and keep it to the recommended amount of time. When signing in, you may request to go in early and give an appealing reason why.

OVERVIEW

Through research and experience, Fertility Within Reach has discovered that personal correspondence with legislators is the most effective manner of communicating.

QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS?

For more information, please visit fertilitywithinreach.org to access our State Advocacy page for current links for each state, and *Communicating with your Legislator* about Fertility video guide presented by *Fertility Within Reach* founder and Executive Director, Davina Fankhauser.