

# ADVOCATING WITH YOUR ELECTED OFFICIALS



Take Charge – Be Heard

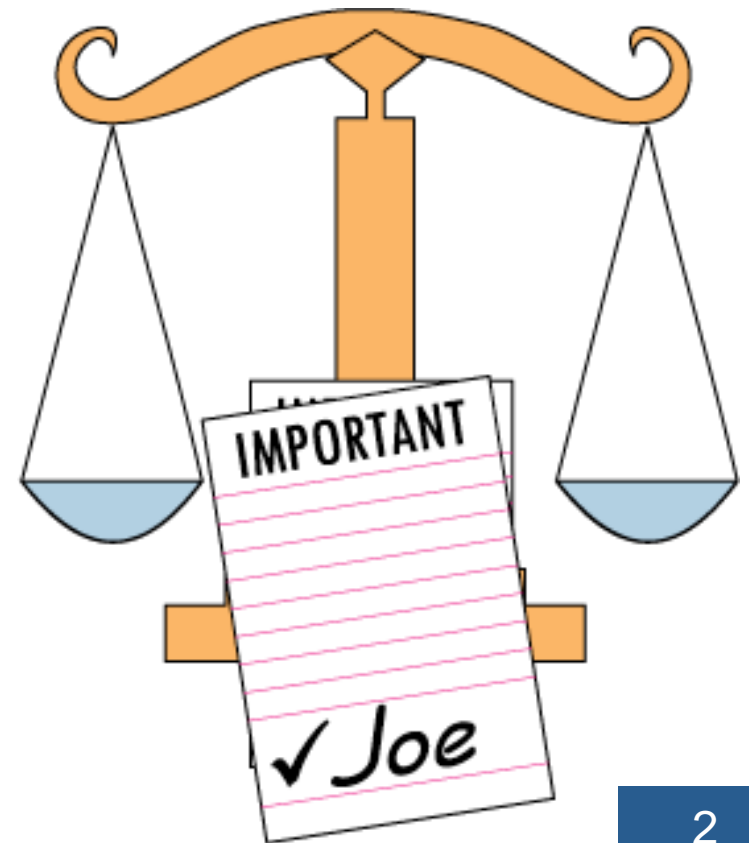
Orientation

# ADVOCATING

Communicating your ideas can make a difference.

You can let legislators know what is important to your community.

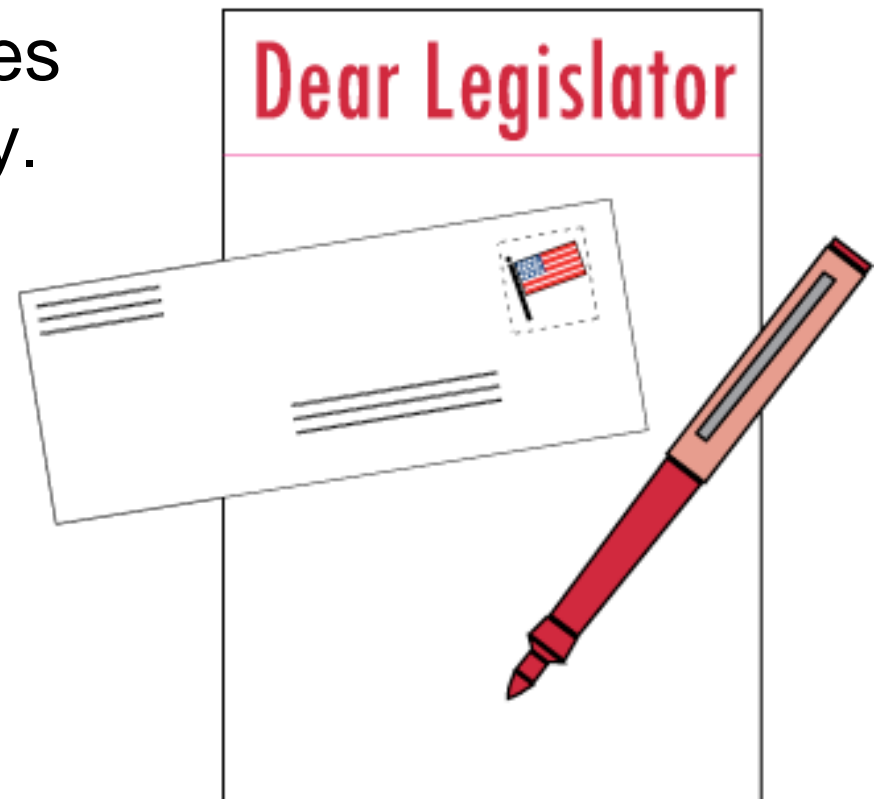
You can be involved in our political process.



# AN EASY TO USE TOOL TO ADVOCATE

Learning ways to successfully advocate helps elected officials learn about important issues to you and your community.

Contacting elected officials is important and assures your ideas are heard.



# ADVOCATING WITH YOUR ELECTED OFFICIALS

## The video and workbook will help you:

Learn ways to successfully advocate with elected officials

- Prepare your issues.
- Make a visit.
- Make a telephone call.
- Send a letter or email.



# GETTING STARTED

You have a member of the State Assembly and State Senate that represent you.

1. Find their names on the following website.



<http://192.234.213.69/Imapsearch/framepage.asp>

(type your address and zip code)

2. Locate their names on the **Advocating With Your Elected Officials** website “CA Legislators” section.
3. Review their websites and join their email lists.

# PREPARATION

Learn about the proposed law (bill) you want to support or oppose.

## Find out :

1. The assigned number and author's name of the bill (example: AB100, Jones – Assemblymember Maria Jones).
2. What your legislator thinks about the bill.



# PREPARATION

## Do your research:

- ✓ Learn about the issue or bill that concerns you.

## Think about:

- ✓ How you want to share your ideas.
- ✓ Know the bill number and author.
- ✓ How the issue will affect you and people you know.



# SHARING IDEAS WITH YOUR LEGISLATORS

## You can:

1. Meet with them personally.
2. Call their offices.
3. Write an email or letter.

## *Remember:*

Use the worksheet to help organize what you want to share.

**Tear Off Work Sheet**

**(1) Your Elected Officials**  
Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Contact Info \_\_\_\_\_  
Staff member \_\_\_\_\_  
Contact info \_\_\_\_\_

**(2) Your Issues**  
What do you support/oppose?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Bill number and author \_\_\_\_\_

**(3) Why do you support/oppose (be brief and focused)**  
Impact (personal story, work experience, or official position)  
1. \_\_\_\_\_  
2. \_\_\_\_\_  
3. \_\_\_\_\_  
Recommendations/suggestions \_\_\_\_\_  
Answers to questions you might be asked \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_