

Tips for Calling and Emailing Legislators

For many legislators, just FIVE phone calls on a particular bill is enough to spur them into action. The more calls a lawmaker receives, the harder they will work for the bill.

Emails are good, but phone calls are even better!

Make sure to contact your legislators AND the members on the committee handling the issue -- usually the Environment Committee. You can find links to both on our "At the Capitol" page of our website.

PHONE CALLS

- You will almost always speak to the lawmaker's aide. Legislative aides are very friendly and hear from citizens all day long. It is their job to pass along information to the lawmaker.
- Have the bill number(s) and title(s) handy, along with your request for support.
- You do not need to be an expert on the bill. If the aide asks you a question you do not know the answer to, simply say you will ask CVA and get back to the aide with the answer later.
- Be sure to provide your address so the lawmaker knows you are a constituent.

EMAILS

- The best emails are concise and written in your own words.
- Provide the bill number(s) and title (s) you wish to address, and then ask for their support.
- Provide a couple of sentences on why you feel strongly about the bill.
- Avoid being overly sentimental or emotional. Do not send photos of animals suffering.
- Always be polite.
- Be timely! Contact pertinent legislators when the legislation is before them for consideration.
- Close the email by thanking them for their help.
- Always provide your home address and phone number so they know you are a constituent.