

FAST FACTS:

HOW TO CONTACT YOUR LEGISLATORS

Your Representatives WANT you to contact them so they know what the people in their district think about the issues. While a personal visit or phone call may not be possible, letters will always get a response.

LOBBYING BY LETTER:

1. When writing, limit the letter to ONE topic and try to keep the length under one page.
2. Use key facts and information to back your position.
3. Identify the legislation involved by issue or number whenever possible.
4. Address the members by their titles (Senator, Congressman, etc.).

LOBBYING BY PHONE:

1. Call whenever you can and at strategic times (i.e. right before a bill is voted on).
2. State how you want your legislator to vote, and leave your name and number, such as: "Please tell Senator/Representative [Name] that I support/oppose Sen/House Bill ____."
3. If you want, ask to speak to the legislator directly. Otherwise, ask to speak to an aid in charge of the issue.

PERSONAL VISITS:

1. Always call to make an appointment.
2. Be prompt and patient. Your representative may be late due to his or her own busy schedule.
3. Be prepared. Make sure you are up-to-date on your issues. Bring pamphlets or other relevant information to leave with your representative.
4. Be responsive. Be prepared to answer questions or provide information if asked.
5. Send a thank you letter afterward thanking your representative for his or her time.

OTHER TIPS:

- Know your issues.
- Use personal examples.
- Always be kind and courteous, never rude, threatening, or hostile.
- Be reasonable in your request for action.
- Thank your legislator when you are pleased with his or her vote on an issue.
- Call back and write often!

LOCAL OFFICIALS

CHAMPAIGN

Mayor Don Gerard
City of Champaign
102 N. Neil St.
Champaign, IL 61820
217.403.8720

URBANA

Mayor Laurel Prussing
City of Urbana
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RANTOUL

Mayor Charles Smith
Village of Rantoul
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MAHOMET

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Mayor B.J. Hackler
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SAVOY

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Savoy Municipal Center
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CHAMPAIGN COUNTY BOARD

Chair Alan Kurtz
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Urbana, IL 61802
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ILLINOIS GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Senator Michael Frerichs (D-52)
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Senator Chapin Rose (R-51)
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217.558.1006

Representative Bill Mitchell (R-101)
632 Capitol Building
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Representative Adam Brown (R-102)
314 Capitol Building
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Representative Naomi D. Jakobsson (D-103)
257-S Stratton Building
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Representative Chad Hays (R-104)
222-N Stratton Office Building
Springfield, IL 62706
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Governor Pat Quinn
State House, Room 207
Springfield, IL 62706
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U.S. CONGRESS

Senator Richard Durbin
711 Hart Senate Office Building
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Senator Mark Kirk
524 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington DC, 20510
202.224.2854

Congressman Rodney Davis (R-13)
1740 Longworth House Office Building
Washington DC, 20515
202.225.2371

Congressman John Shimkus (R-15)
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