



How to Contact Your Legislator

1. Who Is Your Legislator?

- You can find this information from the Wyoming State Legislature's web site for both your State Representative and your State Senator. The web site to find your Representative is leglocator.state.wy.us/leg2/wyoming/search.asp?map=0&scope=-. To find your Senator, go to leglocator.state.wy.us/leg2/wyoming/search.asp?map=1&scope=-. ESPC's web site will have these links up in early January.
- To get contact information for your legislator (the links above show only the name of the legislator and don't have contact information), go to legisweb.state.wy.us/LegislatorSummary/LegHistoryMain.aspx and type in your legislator's first and last names.
- These pages will have the legislators' home or business address, phone number, and email address.
- During the Legislative Session, you can contact your legislator by calling the Senate Receptionist at (307) 777-7711 or the House Receptionist at (307) 777-7852 to leave a brief message for a member.

2. General Tips for Contacting Your Legislator

- Identify yourself as a constituent. This is very important. Let them know where you live and what your community connections are. Be sure to include your address, phone number, and email address in all correspondence.
- Keep communications short and to the point. Avoid hyperbole; stick to the facts.
- If you want a reply, ask for it.
- Stay positive and don't make personal or personalized attacks.
- Emphasize a personal connection to the issue.
- Remember, you don't need to be an expert in any issue to let your legislator know what you think. You **ARE** an expert in what you, your family, and your community need.
- If you are writing about a specific piece of legislation, include the bill number and reference any amendments you are writing about.

Examples:

DO: I am a constituent who lives in Buffalo. I belong to the local Lions Club and am very concerned about funding for my children's schools. I have read that the lease payments for School Trust Lands are much lower than the lease payments on private land and I don't think that is fair – to us and to our children. Please vote yes on HB 000 to increase these lease payments.

DON'T: I am tired of rich people ripping off our schools. If you don't vote the right way on increasing lease rates on School Trust Lands, I will tell everyone I know that you don't support public education and don't care if our schools fall apart and our teachers all leave for other states.

3. How and When to Contact Them

- You should contact your Legislator when you know there is an important issue coming up that you want to be heard on. You can contact them before, during, or after the Session.
- You can email, call, or write a letter. Email or letters are best because you have a written record of your communication and can refer to it later to follow up. Phone calls are good if there is a hot issue during the session and you need to reach your legislator quickly.