

## Tips for Talking with Legislators

1. Introduce yourself (who you are, where you practice, type of care you provide)
2. Ask for their support for your bill
3. Explain what the bill does BRIEFLY and in practical terms.
4. Explain WHY this bill is important – how it will help patients, increase access to care, improve employment, reduce workforce issues. Focus on your WHY! Personal stories are the most valuable.
5. Tell a factual and persuasive story. It's important to highlight problems caused by the current law and how the bill will fix them. Use anecdotes from your own practice when appropriate.
6. Thank the legislator for their time. Remember to leave behind your card and materials and/or follow up via email.

This conversation should be NO MORE than 10 minutes.

### Additional tips:

- Don't use medical jargon; keep it simple!
- If you're there with a group, decide who will talk. Ideally the person who is the constituent will talk to the legislator. If multiple people are consistent, take turns covering different points!
- If you don't know something, DON'T guess! Use it as an opportunity to follow up.
- Staff are vital to the legislative process; be sure to treat meetings with staff as you would with legislators!
- Make sure you bring your cards to leave behind