

Access the California Legislature Website

www.legislature.ca.gov

A wealth of information can be accessed on the California Legislature website at www.legislature.ca.gov.

Search for information about the state Legislature, including legislation, committees and hearings. Search for a bill by session, house, bill number, author or keywords.

Search for legislators and their districts. Identify legislators' districts in California by entering the ZIP Code or specific address.

Search for legislative research, laws and publications.

Find legislators' websites and contact information. Find e-mail addresses for many legislators. When e-mailing legislators, follow the same rules as for letter writing. Legislators do not accept e-mail attachments.

Visit these websites too!

Senate

www.senate.ca.gov

Assembly

www.assembly.ca.gov

Review Proposed Legislation

www.legislature.ca.gov

E-Mail Governor

www.govmail.ca.gov

Contact Information

When writing the governor or legislators, always use the proper form of address:

Governor

The Honorable Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor of California
State Capitol Building
Sacramento, CA 95814
Dear Governor Schwarzenegger:

Senators

The Honorable John Doe
California State Senate
P.O. Box 942848
Sacramento, CA 94248-0001
Dear Senator Doe:

Assemblymembers

The Honorable Jane Doe
California State Assembly
P.O. Box 942849
Sacramento, CA 94249-0001
Dear Assemblymember Doe:

As nurse leaders, you are a knowledgeable advocate for health care and the nursing profession. Your input is valuable as our legislators consider a variety of issues that affect the health care of their constituents across the continuum.

Additional Resource

ACNL Resource Guide for Political Action also is available on the ACNL website at www.acnl.org.

California Legislative Insight

Tips at a Glance

Influence, shape and change the future of health care by educating state lawmakers who can make a difference. This brochure gives you the tools you need to communicate directly with your legislative leaders.



Association of California Nurse Leaders
Health Policy Committee



Communicate With Your Legislators ...

Legislators are willing to receive input from their constituents. Remember, they are elected to represent *you!*

Get Informed!

Be knowledgeable and informed about your issues.

Understand the Process!

Learn the legislative process.

Get Involved!

Participate in public meetings on important issues and testify at committee hearings on proposed bills.

Get to Know Your Legislators!

Learn which legislators to contact for each issue. Find out who your local representatives are and what issues are important to them.

Prepare to Compromise and Have Patience!

Know that your issue is not the only good cause that needs your legislators' attention.

... By Letter

- ◆ Use your own words on your own stationery.
- ◆ Address letters to your own legislators or to committee chairs.
- ◆ Keep your letters short, clear and concise.
- ◆ Identify bills by title and legislative bill number.
- ◆ Make sure your letters are timely. Write when legislation is pending in committee.
- ◆ State reasons for your positions. Use facts and information to reinforce your positions. Tell how the issues affect you or your community.
- ◆ Identify yourself, your professional title and your business or organization, and include a return phone number.
- ◆ Use a return address on the envelope and letter.
- ◆ See reverse for proper address formats.

... By Telephone

- ◆ State your name, professional title and business or organization.
- ◆ Identify the bill you are calling about by title and legislative bill number.
- ◆ Clearly state your position. Be short and concise, and use facts and information to reinforce how it affects you or your community.
- ◆ It is not necessary to speak directly to the legislator. A staff member can take a message and relay your information, questions, concerns or opinion to the legislator.
- ◆ Leave your address and telephone number so the legislator can follow up if necessary.
- ◆ Remember to thank him/her for taking the time to speak to you.
- ◆ Find contact information at www.legislature.ca.gov.