

NVFC Advocacy Quick Tips

- 1) Know your legislator's district/state. Politicians want to know how policy will impact their constituents.
- 2) Have an agenda and prioritize your message points. Time with legislators is extremely valuable.
- 3) Keep your message simple and concise. Focus on delivering your key message points.
- 4) Provide specific examples, data, or anecdotes to support your message. Tell a real story.
- 5) When you don't know the answer to a question, admit it and promise to look into it and get back to them.
- 6) Be a good listener, even if a legislator disagrees with aspects of your position.
- 7) Know specifically what you are asking for on each message point before you go into the meeting.
- 8) Don't move from one message point to the next before making your "ask."
- 9) Take notes so that NVFC staff can follow up on commitments and questions that arise.
- 10) Leave the interview on a high note. Summarize key points in a positive manner.