

MI NURSES Association

Lobbying script for RNs: Use this as a general guide for legislative office visits

Introduce yourself and members of your group:

- Share your name, where you work, how long you've been an RN and what unit you work on; briefly explain what that means if it is a term lay people might not understand (such as PACU, telemetry, etc.)
- If you are a constituent, say where you live.
- If you are not a constituent, explain why you are there (e.g., many of your constituents come to my facility for care or you're the chair of the committee that has the bills).

Explain why you are there.

You will often know how to approach the legislator based on your research. It is appropriate to **thank** the legislator for their support on a particular bill at the beginning of the conversation if you know they support it, but don't assume that any legislator necessarily has a good understanding of the bill. Still explain.

I'm a registered nurse and I'm here to talk with you about _____ . [Give bill numbers and written materials.]

As you may know, the problem right now is _____ .

The effect is _____ .

The bill(s) would _____ (briefly describe).

Share your story of why a law is needed.

"I want to share an experience that helps show why this is so important to me and other nurses and our patients."

Options for a response:

- Ask them to support the bill(s) or thank them again, if they already do.
- Ask them to talk to the committee chair and urge a hearing on the bill(s).
- Ask them (state Senators only) to add their name as a cosponsor of the bill(s).
- If you agree to disagree: say you look forward to talking further about this because it's really important to nurses and patients in their district.