

# 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.