

**ADVOCATING LOCAL
GOVERNMENT INTERESTS
BEFORE THE RHODE ISLAND
GENERAL ASSEMBLY:**

A Handbook for Local Officials



THE RHODE ISLAND LEAGUE OF CITIES AND TOWNS

The Rhode Island League of Cities and Towns is a private, nonpartisan, nonprofit association of cities and towns formed in 1968 to improve the effectiveness of local government in the state of Rhode Island

SERVICES

Public Policy Advocacy

Lobbying for public policies that benefit and strengthen local government

Membership Programs

Exploration and implementation of services and programs to benefit cities and towns

Intergovernmental Relations

Promoting stable and productive intergovernmental relationships

Public Awareness

Promotion of increased understanding and support for the benefits and value of strong local government with the media, the general public, and other institutions

Membership Education

Publications, information, training and networking opportunities for key elected and appointed local officials

Unity

Fostering a strong sense of unity between all cities and towns resulting in a common agenda to advance local government interests

Federal Representation

Advocacy of local government interests before the United States Congress and federal agencies is provided through affiliation with the National League of Cities in Washington, D.C

ADVOCATING LOCAL GOVERNMENT INTERESTS BEFORE THE RHODE ISLAND GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

A Handbook For Local Officials

This handbook has been prepared by the Rhode Island League of Cities and Towns for use by local government officials during the 2003 and 2004 sessions of the Rhode Island General Assembly.

The handbook will assist you in contacting legislators, knowing which legislative committees your legislators serve on, how to communicate your opinion on legislative bills and other information that will assist you and other officials of your community in effectively advocating either the passage of your community's legislative program or the position of the League on bills that impact the collective interests of all cities and towns.

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THE MUNICIPAL LEADER AND THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

A common bond between municipal leaders in Rhode Island is their desire to improve the quality of life in their communities. Sooner or later, however, local officials realize that much of what happens within their own borders is directed by others outside of their jurisdiction, primarily by the General Assembly.

During an "average" session of the General Assembly, over 3,000 legislative bills are introduced and filed in committees for action. Each of these initiatives is analyzed by the League to determine whether the legislation impacts local government administration, finance, personnel or regulatory authority. Those identified as having such an impact, an average of some 350 bills per session, are continuously tracked during the legislative session. Primary sponsors of identified legislation are spoken to, either to indicate the League's support of their bill or to indicate the bill is problematic to local government interests. Effort is made, whenever possible, to suggest amendments to all such bills. If a bill represents something so onerous to local interests (e.g., compulsory binding arbitration of municipal employee labor contract impasses), the legislator is informed of the association's opposition to passage and the fact that it will openly oppose passage at any legislative committee hearing on the legislation. In addition to the regular legislation, the League analyzes the State's Budget and its Articles to assess the budget's impact on existing aid programs and to ascertain whether the proposed budget creates any possible new mandates or initiatives that impact cities and towns.

Needless to say, effective local government advocacy during any session of the General Assembly is extremely important and it requires a continuous presence, not only of League staff, but of local opinion to be truly effective. The reality is that you cannot be an effective municipal leader today if you ignore the significant role played by the General Assembly (and other branches of state government) in regulating and funding the activities of local government.

Imagine this picture: An important bill supported by municipalities is coming up before the General Assembly for a vote, and a member of the League's staff is meeting with a legislator to convince him/her to vote for the bill.

The staffer starts out with, *"This is a very important bill for cities and towns. Municipal officials really support this bill, and they would appreciate you voting for it."*

The legislator: *"Well, if the municipal officials in my district really support it, I certainly haven't heard of it. The only calls I've gotten are from the folks and lobbyists who oppose this bill. They are calling me all the time. I haven't heard a word from municipal officials."*

We wish we could say that this situation rarely takes place, but in reality, it happens too often. Yes, the League does represent your interests at the State House, pushing for the legislation that benefits our membership and opposing proposals hostile to municipal interests. But legislators also need to hear from you, their hometown elected and appointed officials.

When legislators don't hear from *you*, they assume that you really don't care, that it's a "League issue", not a municipal one. It is imperative that you speak out. Your presence in the process adds validity to the staff's efforts. Don't minimize the effect of your involvement. You really *can* make a difference.

ADVOCATING LOCAL GOVERNMENT INTERESTS

"Lobby" \ 'läb-□\vi: to conduct activities aimed at influencing public officials especially members of a legislative body on legislation and other public policy decisions.

The most important and effective lobby in advocating local government interests before the Rhode Island General Assembly are the legislative communications which come from local officials.

Most of the time, your involvement in the legislative process will be via written communications or telephone calls to your legislators or your community's "local" legislation that you may wish to have passed, or legislation that affects all cities and towns that you wish to be either passed or defeated. At times, however, you might be asked or have a personal desire to testify before a legislative committee at the State House. Although appearing and testifying before legislative committees is viewed by many as being an intimidating experience, it really isn't and it can be extremely beneficial for everyone involved. While the legislative process is far from pure, local officials should and must understand the process and often participate in it to ensure that the interests of their community or local governments in general are advanced and preserved.

There is often confusion and a feeling that little is accomplished when a local official presents testimony before a legislative committee; however, it is important for local officials to understand that participation in local lobbying efforts is essential and there are certain ways to achieve the best results.

Everyone has an idea about the most effective method of testifying, but here are a few tips to remember:

Do your homework

Before you testify, make sure you know something about the issue (the big picture) and its impact on you (the little picture). Although this may seem obvious, often times officials may be called upon on short notice or come unprepared to testify for or against a piece of legislation. Arguably, it is better to not testify at all than to appear uninformed or confused about the bill.

Often the League can provide you with comments and statistics to back your testimony. Also remember that at the conclusion of your testimony, committee members are likely to ask questions. Preparation is the key here as well. Remember that if you don't know the answer to a question, simply say I don't know. However, offer to get the answer and ask in what form the answer should be returned to the committee.

Another important aspect of this process is knowing who serves on the committee you will speak to. It also helps to know the feel of the committee on your particular issue. If you know one of the legislators on the committee check with him/her to gauge the committee chair's likes and dislikes about your legislation or the particulars of a League bill. If you don't know anyone on the committee, check with your legislator or contact the League to make an initial committee contact.

If time permits, a written copy of your testimony should be made available for committee members, staff and members of the media.

The event

As you may have already experienced, the legislative process is time consuming and at times frustrating. Delays in the process to accommodate schedules can throw an entire day's plans off.

However, it is important to be in the designated place on time. If you are unsure of a room location, again, ask the League.

If you are testifying in support of a bill, make sure the committee chair and bill sponsor know

this. Often the chair will honor the wishes of bill sponsors in the order and length of testimony. If time is running short, the chair may ask those in support of the bill to simply let the record show your position and not let you make any comments. Even though this is frustrating, it is a very real part of the process so don't be discouraged.

Treating committee members and staff courteously is essential in the process. No matter your position, a professional approach is by far the best way to be effective. Try not to read from prepared remarks. Committee members can read your remarks on their own time. Confine your remarks to short, documented points.

It is not uncommon for committee members to come and go while you are talking. Although this might seem that a legislator is uninterested, or even rude, it is also part of the legislative process as members may have other bills or other meetings running concurrently.

After completing your testimony, offer to answer committee members' questions. As previously mentioned, there may be questions asked to which you don't know the answer. Simply offer to get the answer to the legislator(s). Never alienate or anger a committee member. You never know when they may be your ally in the future.

Don't be discouraged if the committee doesn't take action on your legislation. It is not unusual for the chair to postpone action on any bill or hold it for a vote at a later date. If this occurs don't give up. Follow the next step and re-educate the appropriate people.

If you are at the State House to advocate the passage of a "local" bill, there are several important matters which should have already been taken care of prior to the legislative committee hearing. First, the committee chair should already have on file, in multiple copies, a council resolution in support of the legislation. This assures the chair and other committee members that the legislative body of your community is knowledgeable and fully supports the intent of the legislation. Absent this resolution, the committee could postpone the hearing of the bill until such time as the resolution is on file (thus making your trip to the State House a waste of time) or, even worse, and it has happened numerous times, the committee takes testimony on the bill, defers action on the legislation until much later in the session, and in the rush to adjourn, loses the council resolution (if it was ever sent), and the bill dies of "natural" causes. While this happens infrequently, it still does happen, and although your respective legislators should know the proper procedures to assure the passage of your local initiatives - you should check, then double check that everything that must be done, has indeed been done!

After you leave the State House

To solidify the comments or information you gave, follow up with a letter or call to each committee member. Include any additional information that may have been requested, but not available at the original hearing. Also, offer to be available to the committee in the future, and provide a readily accessible phone number to be contacted.

Wrap-up

Even though this process as described seems logical, you will no doubt have things occur for which no one could have prepared. The legislative process is certainly not perfect.

The League wants to know when you will be at the State House. Although there may be times we may call upon you to testify, we realize there may be pieces of legislation of particular interest to only your municipality. Nonetheless, we want to assist you in preparation and ensure that the organization keeps track of all municipal testimony on every bill that impacts local government.

Municipal officials can have a dramatic impact on most pieces of legislation simply by being involved. Who knows, you may even gain some new friends and find the entire process fun. If you have any questions about this process please contact the League. The Rhode Island League of Cities and Towns wants to be the most effective lobbying organization it can, but it can't be done without your help!

TEN TIPS ON EFFECTIVE COMMUNICATION

Whenever the Rhode Island General Assembly is in session, the R.I. League of Cities and Towns has one paramount responsibility: advocate the collective best interests of its membership directly with senators, representatives and state officials.

However, as effective as the League may be in its daily contact with your legislators, in reality the most effective lobbying tool in advocating local government's interests are the legislative communications which come from local officials. Legislators are most interested in hearing from their mayor, town manager, town administrator, and municipal councilmembers to get their opinions - your opinions as to the impact or effect a piece of legislation may have on your city or town. As has proven to be true so many times during past sessions of the General Assembly, grass roots lobbying by municipal officials is the most successful way to communicate the position of local governments on legislation.

Keeping this in mind, the following suggestions can be useful in assuring that your opinions and viewpoints will be heard - and listened to - in the months ahead. Collectively, the grass roots efforts of all cities and towns should once again result in a successful legislative session for municipal governments in Rhode Island.

1. **Put Someone in Charge**

Make sure one staff person is responsible for immediate review of any League communications on legislation, especially any **LEGISLATIVE ALERTS**, and for initiating a timely response by your city or town.

This person may be the mayor, the city manager, an assistant city manager, an assistant to the city manager, or someone else. This person should duplicate any League communications for distribution to councilmembers and department heads and should coordinate follow up.

During the busiest periods of the legislative session, a response from your municipality may be needed in less than a week and occasionally in one or two days, so it is important that someone have the responsibility for coordinating your response.

2. **Get Personally Acquainted**

Make it your business to become personally acquainted with your senator and representative. Take a sincere interest in them, and get to know their political philosophies.

If you contact your legislators only when you want their support on a legislative matter, it might be too late. It's better to be in touch with them throughout their terms of office.

3. **Respond to the League's Requests for Assistance**

LEGISLATIVE ALERTS all frequently ask for your assistance in analyzing the effects of a bill or in communicating with legislators. Please respond in a timely manner to League requests for bill reviews and letters, phone calls, or faxes in support or opposition. Keep track of your positions and responses. Make sure that the League receives a copy of any letter that you write in response to a League request.

Remember - the League's position on a specific piece of legislation may change (and often does!) as the bill is amended. Consequently, it is vital that you continue to respond immediately to requests for letters, even though you may have already written a letter at an earlier point in the process.

4. Be Able to Act Quickly

Establish a procedure for urgent (one-day) action on bills.

Occasionally, a new bill is introduced or an important amendment is proposed that requires immediate response by all cities and towns. The League will request that you take immediate action, or the League may call city officials in cities in key legislative districts and ask them to call their legislators right away. You'll need a quick and simple method to get that call made.

5. Express Yourself

Surprisingly, few people outside government ever contact their legislators. This reluctance usually results from the belief that legislators have no time or inclination to answer their phones or read their mail, and that one single contact won't make any difference anyway.

In most cases, these views are wrong. Thoughtful, factually persuasive contacts can change legislators' minds and cause them to review their judgments. Local officials in Rhode Island have proven this to be the case in dozens and dozens of instances!

Although a telephone call or a letter can be very effective, personal face-to-face contact is the most effective approach.

Try to talk to your legislators when they are back home in the districts; they are more likely to listen and respond positively in a local environment. Also, when you are in Providence, don't miss the opportunity to drop by and talk to your senator and representative.

While members of the legislature are extremely busy, it should not be assumed that they won't have time to see you. After all, they are there to represent your interests and views.

Your senator and representative need to be directly exposed to people they represent - including you. They need to know what you think about the issues facing your community and how legislation pending at the State House will affect your city. That's what they're in the legislature for.

Be sure to have accurate facts and good arguments about any issues you discuss with your legislators. Make sure you understand the particular bill in question.

6. Write Letters Carefully and Thoughtfully

Each letter you write should cover only one bill and should reference the bill number in a separate line at the top of the page. Otherwise, your letter may get lost in the system.

Legislators are often caught in a cross-fire between conflicting interests and opinions. Consequently, their votes may be contrary to your opinion as a local official. Present your position logically and base it on facts. Emotional appeals do not influence a vote.

Identify the bill you are writing about. Give the number of the bill and a brief description of its subject matter. Thousands of bills are introduced during a regular session, and

legislators cannot be expected to immediately recall every one of them merely by a number or a vague description.

Be brief, specific and to-the-point. Many issues are complex, but your opinions and arguments have a better chance of being read if they are stated as concisely as the subject will permit. Remember that your letter will be competing for time and attention with countless others. Most viewpoints can be amply set forth in a carefully-written, one-page letter.

Use background material provided by the League, if available, as a basis for your own letters, but don't simply copy the language. Give facts and opinions concerning the effects of a particular measure on your own jurisdiction.

The importance of contacting a legislator on time cannot be overemphasized. The most eloquent letter does no good if it arrives after a vote.

7. Keep the League Informed

Always send the League copies of your letters or faxes. We need to know to whom you write, when you write and what you say. And, if you receive a response from a member, let us know about that, too. The League incorporates your arguments and local circumstances into the testimony it presents at the State House.

8. Recognize Their Problems

Your legislators represent all of the constituents in your area - liberal and conservative, business and labor. Their duty is to represent all of the people to the best of their ability.

There may be times when you think your legislators are on the wrong track, but they may have facts which are not available to you. Try to understand their problems, outlook and objectives.

Most controversial legislation is the result of compromise - that's the way the system operates. This is especially true in the corridors of our State House. There will be times when legislation does not go our way, but try not to be too critical when that happens. Remember that you can disagree without being disagreeable.

9. Say Thank You

Remember to thank legislators regularly and publicly for their work, support, and efforts, not only on legislation that is supported by the League, but also for any work they might do on behalf of your community to get "local" legislation passed.

Never discount the importance of a thank you; it really can make a difference. This is one of the most important things you can do because so few people remember to thank their legislators - and legislators clearly remember those who do. Letters to the editor of a local or regional newspaper praising the responsiveness of legislator to local needs can be effective public ways for saying thank you to your legislator.

10. Do Unto Others...

Approach legislators the way you, as a municipal official, want to be approached by your constituents - with courtesy and respect.

HOW TO WRITE AN EFFECTIVE LOBBYING LETTER

City/Town of Everywhere
City/Town Hall
Everywhere, RI 04321

Use our official letterhead when communicating about your city's or town's position on a bill.

January 1, 2003

The Honorable Jane Doe
State Senator
Rhode Island State House
Providence, RI 02903

Make it easier for legislators by immediately identifying which bill you're addressing by its bill number. (H___ for House Bills, S___ for Senate Bills)

RE: S-1234

Dear Senator Doe:

Get to the point quickly: your support for or opposition to the bill.

The Town of Everywhere strongly supports S-1234, the Mandate Reform Bill, which would remove the burden of unfunded mandates on local municipalities. Our City/Town Council recently adopted, by unanimous vote, a resolution urging the 2003 Rhode Island General Assembly to enact S-1234.

Make it clear for whom you are speaking.

Our reasons for supporting S-1234 are as follows:

1.) S-1234 would eliminate or fully fund all unfunded state mandates now burdening local communities. These mandates have caused local property taxes to climb dramatically, with little or no local control over such spending.

Provide concrete, credible information on the proposed legislation and its impact on your municipality - and on voters in your municipality

2.) Mandated programs have cost our municipal budget \$345,789 for fiscal year 2002-2003 and \$1,678,901 in excess costs to our school system.

3.) The difficulty of funding programs in the present economy has caused the formation of a local taxpayers group that has successfully defeated our city/town budget four times in the last two years.

Underline or italicize important information... but use sparingly.

4.) In order to maintain mandated programs, most discretionary and capital expenses have been removed from the budget two years in a row. I have enclosed a work sheet showing the programs either reduced or eliminated due to the high costs of unfunded mandates for your information.

Be clear about the action you want the legislator to take.

For these reasons, we urge you to vote for S-1234 when it is considered in committee and when it is brought to a vote on the Senate floor.

Sincerely,

John Q. Official
Title

P.S. S-1234 is supported by the Rhode Island League of Cities & Towns

Include significant related information in a postscript - often the best read portion of a letter.

Send copies of all your letters to the: Senate President, Senate Majority Leader and Speaker of the House.

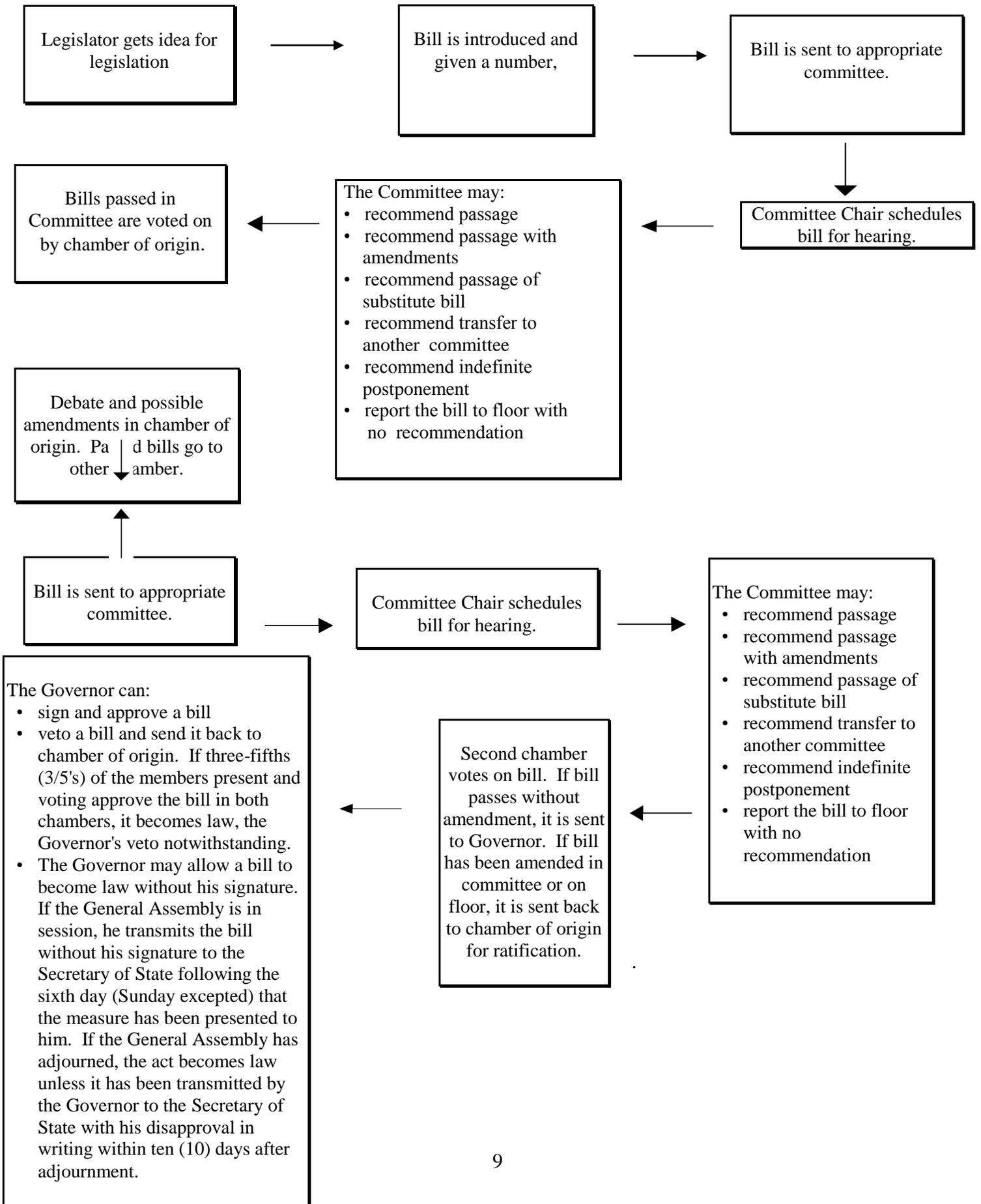
cc: Honorable Joseph A. Montalbano, Senate Majority Leader
Honorable William J. Murphy, Speaker of the House

Keep your letter short. A succinct, one page letter will have more impact than a longer one. If you have documentation, enclose it, but keep the letter brief.

Be sure you send a copy of your letter to the League!

Later, if the legislator does what you've asked him/her to do, be sure to send a letter thanking them for their vote.

HOW A BILL BECOMES LAW IN RHODE ISLAND



CONTACTING SENATORS AND REPRESENTATIVES

SENATORS

There are four ways to reach a Senator from a specific district or who sits on a specific committee:

1. Senate Voicemail
2. Messages with the Senate Majority Leader's Office
3. Listed Phone Numbers
4. Committee Room Numbers
5. E-Mail

1. Senate Voicemail

All Senators can be reached by using the **Senate Voicemail System**. To access this system follow these easy steps:

- a. Using a touch tone phone, Dial **(401) 222-6640**.
- b. Once you hear the recorded message you can:
 - i. Put in your Senator's district number with a preceding **1**. For example, if your Senator's district number is **47** simply dial **147** as soon as you hear the recorded message. If his or her district number is **50** dial **150** etcetera.

You can determine your Senator's district number by referring to the list that is included in this manual (pg. 14).

- ii. If you cannot determine the district number but you know your Senator's last name, follow the prompts of the recorded message after dialing the **222-6640** number.
- iii. This same system can be used if you do not know the district number or name of your Senator. You can get to the Voicemail Box of your own home district by first pressing **1** when you hear the recorded message and then pressing **3**. The system will then ask you to put in the **first three letters** of the town in which you live. If you are calling for a city or town in which you do not live, simply put in the first three letters of the town for which you are trying to reach the State Senator for that area.
- iv. Finally, you can simply listen to the prompts of the system which will guide you through the process. If all else fails, press **0** and the Senate Majority Leader's staff will answer the phone.

Be patient with Legislators, most of them are very busy after their respective legislative sessions on the floor (chamber) as they are required to attend meetings of the committee(s) they serve on. While most make a good effort to get back to people in a

timely matter, if you do not hear back from them within two days, politely leave another message.

The voicemail system also allows individuals to hear the opinions of Senate leaders on various key topics currently before the Senate, and to leave your own opinion as a recorded message.

2. Messages with the Senate Majority Leader's Office

For almost any information regarding Senators, hearings or State House functions, you can call the Senate Majority Leader's Office at **222-6655**, and if they cannot answer your question they can refer you to someone who can.

The only exception to this is if you want information on specific legislation, in which case please refer to another part of this manual regarding legislative information on Bills, Acts or Resolutions.

3. Listed Phone Numbers

Using the list provided in this handbook (pg. 14), look up the Senator's work or home phone number that they have listed for public access. This is often a separate answering machine and number that an individual Senator sets up specifically to take legislative related calls. However, sometimes this is their residence number, so please extend them the courtesies you would in calling any other business person.

4. Committee Numbers

Particularly if a Senator is the Chair or Vice Chair of a legislative committee, messages can be left with the clerk of that committee at the number listed for the committee itself. This can be particularly useful if you are having difficulty reaching a Senator but you know they have a committee meeting that same day.

If you do not know the number for a committee room or cannot refer to a list, simply call the **Senate Majority Leader's Office at 222-6655** and ask for the committee you are trying to reach.

Be aware that there is not always someone to answer the phone in these rooms, and that it is best to call after 1:00 p.m. when the clerk is more likely to be at their extension.

5. E-Mail

To contact any state senator via e-mail enter:

[sen-\[senator's last name\]@rilin.state.ri.us](mailto:sen-[senator's last name]@rilin.state.ri.us)

So, for example, if you wish to send an e-mail message to Senator Joseph Montalbano, send it to:

sen-montalbano@rilin.state.ri.us

It is that simple!

REPRESENTATIVES

There are three ways to reach a Representative.

1. Listed Phone Numbers
2. Messages to the Speaker's Office
3. Committee Room Numbers
4. E-Mail

1. Listed Phone Numbers

Unlike the Senate, the House members do not have voicemail, and many of them do not have an office at the State House. Therefore, often the most effective way to reach Representatives is with the phone numbers they list for public access.

2. Messages to the Speaker's Office

The Speaker's Office can be reached by dialing **(401) 222-2466**. They are quite diligent about getting messages to individual Representatives and staff. If you do not get a return phone call within a few days, simply call again and repeat your message.

3. Committee Room Numbers

Representatives spend even more time in committee than Senators. Therefore, one of the best ways to leave messages for them, particularly if they are the Chair or Vice Chair of an individual committee, is with the committee clerks. Some of the committees on the House side, such as the House Finance Committee, even have full-time clerks.

For committee room numbers refer to the list in this handbook or call the **Speaker's Office at 222-2466**.

4. E-Mail

To contact any state representative via e-mail enter:

[rep-\[representative's last name\] @ rilin.state.ri.us](mailto:rep-[representative's last name]@rilin.state.ri.us)

So, for example, if you wish to send an e-mail message to Representative Gordon Fox, send it to:

rep-fox@rilin.state.ri.us

It is that simple!

ON-LINE WEBSITES

There are two websites available to assist the public in obtaining copies of legislative bills, notices of committee hearings and other information pertinent to the activities of the General Assembly.

The Secretary of State's On-Line Office is located at the following web site address:

<http://sos.ri.gov/>

The General Assembly's On-Line Office is located at the following web site address:

<http://www.rilin.state.ri.us>

SECRETARY OF STATE

The Secretary of State's Public Information System is a valuable tool for anyone seeking information on legislation. For more information on what the Public Kiosk in the Rhode Island State House has to offer or for any other questions, dial **(401) 222-3983**, or stop by the Kiosk which is located on the second floor of the State House just outside the offices of the Secretary of State.

SENATE DISTRICTS BY CITIES AND TOWNS

1. Providence
2. Providence
3. Providence
4. Providence
5. Providence
6. Providence
7. North Providence, Lincoln
8. East Providence, Pawtucket
9. Barrington, Bristol
10. Warren, Tiverton, Bristol
11. Portsmouth, Bristol
12. Little Compton, Middletown, Tiverton
Newport
13. Newport, Jamestown
14. East Providence, Providence
15. Pawtucket
16. Central Falls, Cumberland, Pawtucket
17. North Providence, Pawtucket, Lincoln
18. East Providence
19. Cumberland, Lincoln
20. Woonsocket, Cumberland
21. Woonsocket, North Smithfield
22. Smithfield, North Smithfield
23. Glocester, Burrillville, North
Smithfield
24. Scituate, Coventry, Foster
25. Johnston
26. Cranston
27. Cranston
28. Cranston, Warwick
29. Warwick
30. Warwick
31. Warwick
32. West Warwick
33. Coventry, Warwick, West Warwick, East
Greenwich
34. Charlestown, West Greenwich,
Hopkinton, Richmond
35. East Greenwich, North Kingstown, Warwick
36. North Kingstown, Narragansett
37. South Kingstown, New Shoreham
38. Westerly, Charlestown

HOUSE DISTRICTS BY CITIES AND TOWNS

1. Providence
2. Providence, East Providence
3. Providence
4. Providence
5. Providence
6. Providence, North Providence
7. Providence
8. Providence
9. Providence
10. Providence
11. North Providence
12. Providence
13. Providence, Johnston
14. Cranston
15. Cranston
16. Cranston
17. Cranston
18. Cranston
19. Cranston, Warwick
20. Warwick
21. Warwick
22. Warwick
23. Warwick
24. Warwick
25. West Warwick, Coventry
26. West Warwick, Coventry, Warwick
27. West Warwick, Warwick, Coventry
28. Coventry
29. Coventry, West Greenwich
30. East Greenwich, West Greenwich
31. North Kingstown, Exeter
32. North Kingstown
33. Narragansett, North Kingstown, South Kingstown
34. Narragansett, South Kingstown
35. South Kingstown
36. Charlestown, New Shoreham, South Kingstown, Westerly
37. Westerly
38. Hopkinton, Westerly
39. Charlestown, Exeter, Richmond
40. Coventry, Foster, Gloucester
41. Cranston, Scituate
42. Cranston, Johnston
43. Johnston
44. Johnston, Lincoln, Smithfield
45. Cumberland, Lincoln
46. Lincoln, Pawtucket
47. Burrillville, Gloucester
48. Burrillville, North Smithfield
49. Woonsocket
50. Woonsocket
51. Woonsocket
52. Cumberland
53. Gloucester, Smithfield
54. North Providence
55. North Providence
56. Central Falls
57. Central Falls, Cumberland
58. North Providence
59. Pawtucket
60. Pawtucket
61. Pawtucket
62. East Providence, Pawtucket
63. East Providence, Pawtucket
64. East Providence
65. East Providence
66. Barrington, East Providence
67. Barrington, Warren
68. Bristol, Warren
69. Bristol, Portsmouth
70. Portsmouth, Tiverton
71. Little Compton, Portsmouth, Tiverton
72. Middletown, Newport, Portsmouth
73. Middletown, Newport
74. Jamestown, Middletown
75. Pawtucket

GENERAL ASSEMBLY HOUSE AND SENATE DISTRICTS: BY MUNICIPALITY

City/Town	Senate	Representative
Barrington	9	66, 67
Bristol	9, 10, 11	68, 69
Burrillville	23	47, 48
Central Falls	16	56, 57
Charlestown	38	36, 39
Coventry	24	25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 40
Cranston	26, 27, 28	14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 41, 42
Cumberland	16,19, 20, 21	45, 52, 57
East Greenwich	33, 35	30
East Providence	8, 14, 18	2, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66
Exeter	34	31, 39
Foster	24	40,
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	<u>ROOM</u>	<u>TELEPHONE</u>
Speaker	323	222-2466
Majority Leader	320	222-2447
Majority Whip	303	222-6582
Minority Leader	106	222-2259
House Lounge		222-2548
House Fiscal Advisor	306	222-2738

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Corporations	203	222-2369
Judiciary	205	222-2258
Labor	201	222-2587
Health, Education & Welfare	135	222-2296
Special Legislation	35	222-2356

SENATE

Senate President	318	222-6655
Majority Leader	318	222-3310
Majority Whip	316	222-4200
Minority Leader	120	222-2708
Senate Lounge		222-2250
Senate Fiscal Advisor	117	222-2480
Senate Policy Advisor	145	222-3472

Senate Committees

Commerce, Housing & Municipal Government	213	222-2257
Finance	210	222-3438
Judiciary	311	222-6625
Labor	14	222-2210