How to Talk

So Your Minnesota Legislator Will Listen

It may only take a couple dozen phone calls, emails, or other contact from constituents to get an issue on your legislators' radar.

Do A Little Research

Visit legislators' websites to learn their backgrounds and positions or go to https://www.leg.state.mn.us.

- Sign up for their emails.
- Sign up for ACLU-MN updates at <u>www.aclu-mn.</u>
 org and ACLU <u>People Power</u> to stay in the loop and
 take action at critical moments.

MEET IN PERSON

- Attend town halls meetings or voter or legislative forums. Come prepared with a question and be sure to introduce yourself after.
- During session, visit your legislators at the Minnesota State Capitol.
 Contact them in advance to schedule a meeting.
- Out of session, in their home area, legislators have more time. Set up a meeting and bring like-minded friends.



WRITE A LETTER



Old-fashioned pen and paper can be very effective since it's increasingly rare. Go to the ACLU of Minnesota website for messaging or use your own words. Encourage others to write.

MAKE A CALL



Simply pick up the phone and call your legislator's office. You may reach a staffer or leave a message. State the issue(s) and what you want them to do about it. Minnesota's general line is (651) 296-8338.



- Be brief. Legislators want to know what you think.
 Write just a paragraph or two and keep phone messages to a few sentences.
 - Be firm but courteous. Use respectful language.
 If possible, include praise for a position the legislator has taken in the past.

