## Keep it Simple When You Contact Your Elected Officials

Your Call or Email Will Be Answered by a Staffer (or answering machine) who needs to know 3 things:

- 1. Are you a constituent?
- 2. What action are you requesting?
- 3. Do you want a response?

Organize Your Message

- 1. Identify yourself as a constituent by giving your <u>street address</u>.
- 2. Be polite and brief.
- 3. Make a specific request.

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4. State whether or not you want a response.

Do you want a response?

If you are phoning, asking for a response will slow down the staff, as they have to add you to a response list. In order to get as many calls answered and tallied as possible, it is recommended that you not ask for a response.

✓ Keep

✓ Simple!

**√** It



If you live in Allegheny County, find contact information for most of your national, state, county and local officials in our digital directory!

> Facts For Citizens

Sample Phone or Email Script

"Hello. This is Jane Doe, and I live in your district at (your address). I am calling/writing to urge you to support/oppose/cosponsor (describe or name bill).
This is important to me because, (your reason). I (do/do not) need a response. Thank you for considering my views."

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For example, "I urge you to support the Education Funding Bill", or "I'm asking you to oppose Senate Bill 37."

