

ROA ACADEMY “LEGISLATIVE”

Brought to you by the Department and Chapter Development Committee

January 25, 2024

VISION

Enhancing Chapters and Departments will attract membership and participation.

OBJECTIVE

Provide tools for departments and chapters to engage in legislative activities that affect the Reserves.

2024 FOCUS FOR ROA ACADEMY

1. Legislation
2. Yellow Ribbon/Improved communication
3. Day of Service Oct 2024

AGENDA

- WELCOME
- WORLD WIDE WEB TOOLS
- ADVOCATING AT THE STATE LEVEL
- ADVOCATING FOR ROA LEGISLATIVE AGENDA
- WRAP UP-RESOURCES

WORLD WIDE WEB TOOLS

- Federal legislators: House and Senate
- State legislators: House and Senate
- Legiscan.com

WORLDWIDE WEB TOOLS

Federal legislators: House and Senate

Use search engine "find your legislator"

OR

<https://pluralpolicy.com/find-your-legislator/>

OR

House: <https://www.house.gov/representatives>

Senate: <https://www.senate.gov/>

WORLDWIDE WEB TOOLS

State legislators: House and Senate

Use search engine "find your legislator"

OR

<https://pluralpolicy.com/find-your-legislator/>

OR

"My state.gov" example: South Carolina

<https://www.scstatehouse.gov/legislatorssearch.php>

WORLDWIDE WEB TOOLS

<https://legiscan.com/>

A wealth of information!!!

ADVOCATING AT THE STATE LEVEL

James Bauerle, Indiana

ADVOCATING AT THE STATE LEVEL

ORGANIZE

Form a Coalition of organizations that support our military, veterans, and their families.

- Navy League
- AMVETS
- Fed Employ
- Marine League
- local vet homeless group
- One Source
- University Vet groups
- ROA
- DAV
- American Legion
- MOAA
- VFW
- ESGR
- County VSO

HOW TO ORGANIZE

- Have Bylaws (handout)
- Meet regularly (monthly/as needed)
 - ❖ use Zoom & in-person
 - ❖ Publish agenda & minutes (send to all members and government stakeholders like you state Vet Affairs Agency)
- No dues– need money then “pass the hat”
- Have Website (see www.inmilvetcoal.org)
- Produce annual Legislative agenda & flyer (handouts)
- Seek more organizations & individuals to join (handout)

HOW TO ADVOCATE

1st build your agenda item

- Look at state code that should be on your state government website.
- Note the code number and copy the text of the code.
- Develop a brief title and scope document.
- Research web for any info about the topic you want to change. Use this as part of your rationale.

HOW TO ADVOCATE

2nd Present and get “buy in” from the majority

- Not all may agree with agenda item. That’s OK. If they want to “officially” oppose and are in the minority, advocates will ID to legislators.

3rd Select target legislators to “author” your bill.

- Research to find legislators who may have an interest or who serve on the committee this action will likely be heard. The state.GOV website usually lists all legislators, their bio, committee assignments, party, and past bill they have authored or sponsored.

HOW TO ADVOCATE

4th Contact target legislator.

- Email to legislator and copy to the legislative assistant (LA)(not press rep). Copy yourself for reference and follow up.
- LAs information can also be found on the .GOV website. Note their phone number and email for follow up.
- Ask on behalf of the state military, veterans, and their families for your agenda item to be “authored”.
- Offer to meet in person, Zoom, or on a call. I offer to meet at the state capital, or in their district as well as Zoom.

HOW TO ADVOCATE

5th Follow up in about 2 weeks.

- Send follow up email, and call LA for status weekly after 2 weeks.

6th Ask to see the “preliminary draft of the bill” so you can confirm it is what you want.

- Sometimes the Legislative Support Entity doesn’t understand and may omit part of your target i.e., the Reserve. They think that everyone is in the Guard or is Active.

HOW TO ADVOCATE

7th The Billing Process

- The legislator must file the bill.
- Then the bill gets a number.
- Then the bill is assigned to a committee.
- The Committee Chairman schedules the bill for a hearing date.

HOW TO ADVOCATE

8th Whipping for your bill

- Now you need to contact the Chairman of the committee to meet and promote your bill. His/her “buy in” will go a long way to success.
- If time, get committee members (especially ranking members of both parties) to “buy in” and support the bill.

HOW TO ADVOCATE

9th Testimony

- Show up at the hearing of your bill in Committee and testify.
- Identify yourself and your organization.
- Thank the Committee Chair for hearing the bill.
- Thank the author of the bill for authoring the bill.
- Use the rationale you developed in your testimony.
- Be brief and to the point.

HOW TO ADVOCATE

10th The other Chamber

- Do step 8 & 9 Again.

RESOURCES

Resources

From James Bauerle

Bylaws found on website www.inmilcoal.org

ADVOCATING FOR ROA'S PUBLIC POLICY PORTFOLIO: *PUTTING THE FEDERAL IN FEDERALISM*

Matthew Schwartzman

Director, Legislation and Military Policy



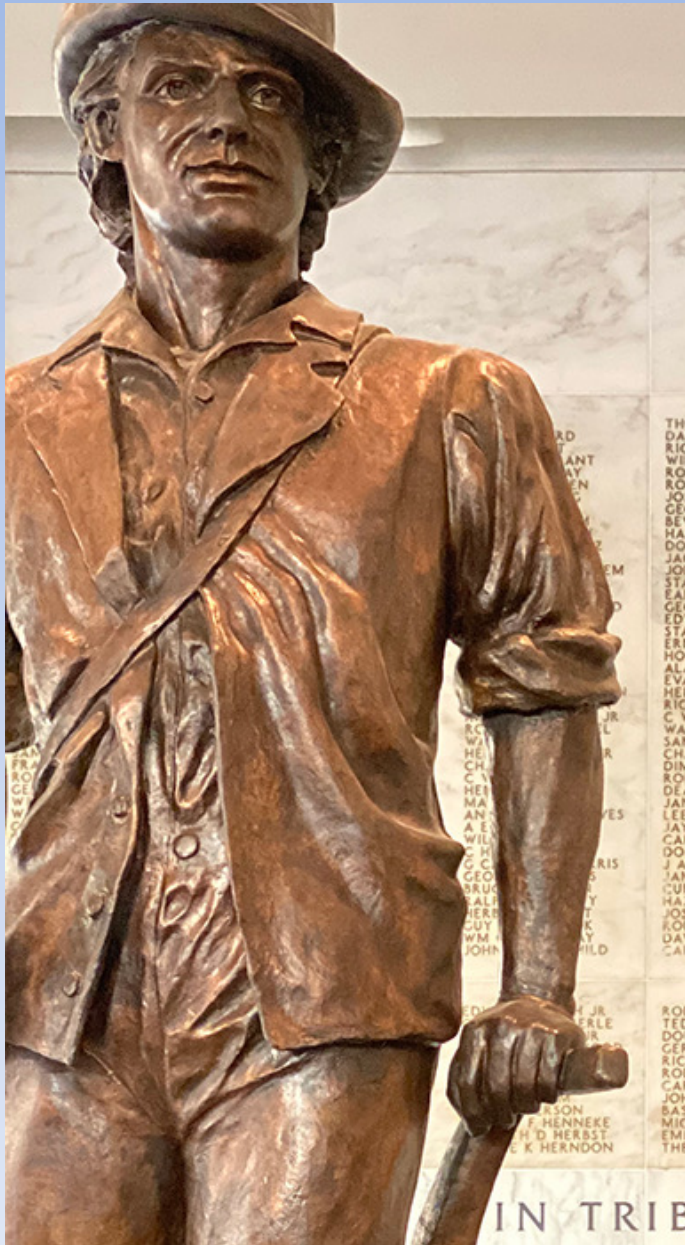
Portrait of Roger Sherman
(Yale University Art Gallery)

“The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the States, are reserved to the States respectively, or to the people.”



*President Jed Bartlet (played by Martin Sheen)
The West Wing*

“There are times when we're fifty states and there are times when we're one country, and have national needs. And the way I know this is that Florida didn't fight Germany in World War II or establish civil rights.”



HOW A BILL BECOMES A LAW:

*P*EOPLE + *P*ROCESS = *P*OLICY.

CONGRESS.GOV Advanced Searches Browse

Search Tools Support Sign In

Legislation Congressional Record Committees Members

Current Congress Examples: hr5, sres9, "health care" MORE OPTIONS

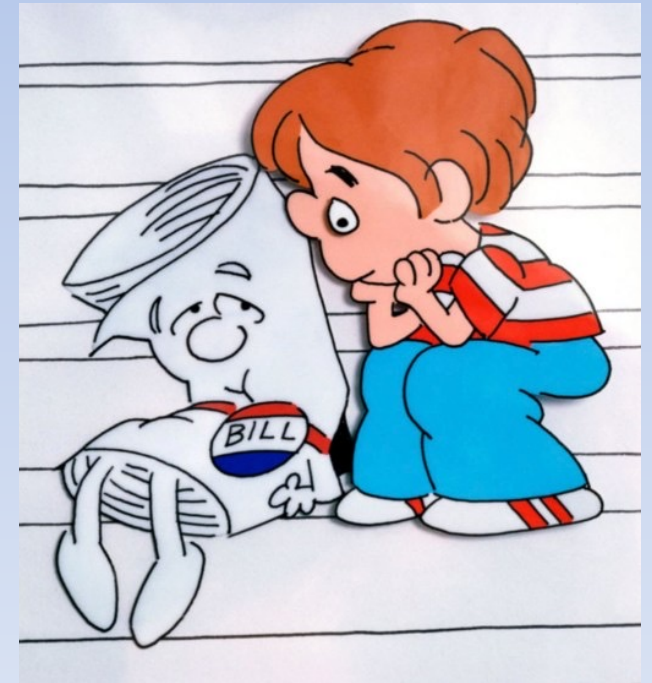
Home > Help > The Legislative Process Citation Subscribe Share/Save Site Feedback

The Legislative Process: Overview (Video)



Section	Length
1. Overview of the Legislative Process	5:09
2. Introduction and Referral of Bills	3:19
3. Committee Consideration	3:39
4. Calendars and Scheduling	2:35
5. House Floor	3:53
6. Senate Floor	4:17
7. Executive Business in the Senate	1:59
8. Resolving Differences	3:29

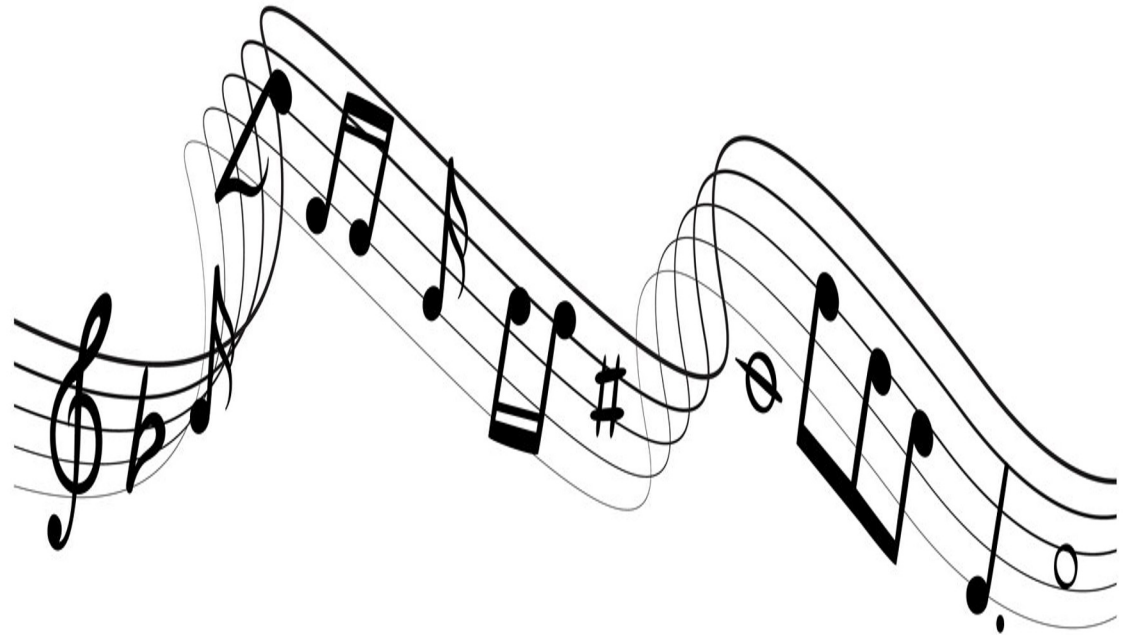
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- <https://www.congress.gov/legislative-process>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Otbml6WIQPo>

“SINGING” FROM THE SAME SHEET OF MUSIC

- Establish connection based on common interest.
- Clear and concise ask.
- Establish need.
- Tailor to interest(s) of “buyer.”
- Honesty. Honesty. Honesty.
- Follow up. Follow Through.
- Be intentional.
- Don’t partner just for the sake of partnership.



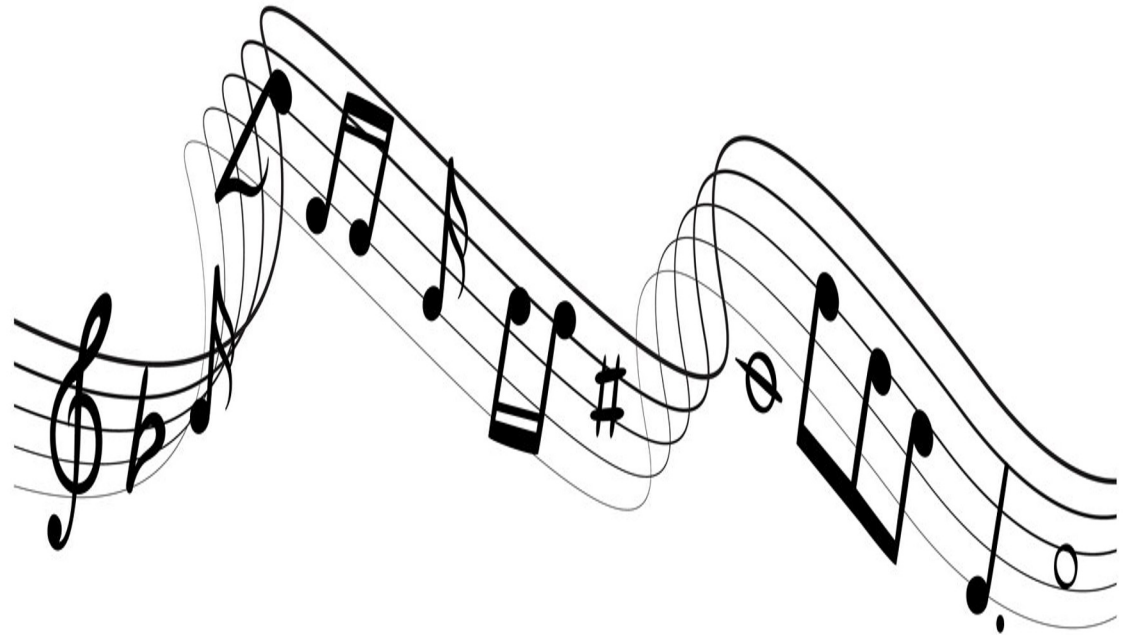
WORKING WITH PARTNERS:

PEOPLE + PROCESS + PARTNERSHIP = POLICY



“SINGING” FROM THE SAME SHEET OF MUSIC

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ROA GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS

READINESS RESOURCES:

- <https://www.roa.org/page/policyportfolio>
- <https://www.roa.org/page/BillsandReports>
 - <https://www.roa.org/page/testimony>
- <https://www.roa.org/page/letterstoleaders>
 - <https://www.roa.org/page/resolutions>
 - <https://www.roa.org/page/LawCenter>
- <https://www.roa.org/page/CallToAction>

WRAP UP

SCOTT RUSSELL COMMENTS-YELLOW RIBBON

TREY CRINER COMMENTS-WEBSITE...