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YOUR CHARGE FOR THE 2023 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

WHATIS ADVOCACY?

The act of pleading or arguing in favor of something, such as a cause, idea, or policy."

Not all advocacy is lobbying, all lobbying is advocacy.



Educate Legislators: Provide information on issues.



Research: Produce relevant resources that reflect the real story of your community.



Encourage individuals to write or call legislators in support of your position.





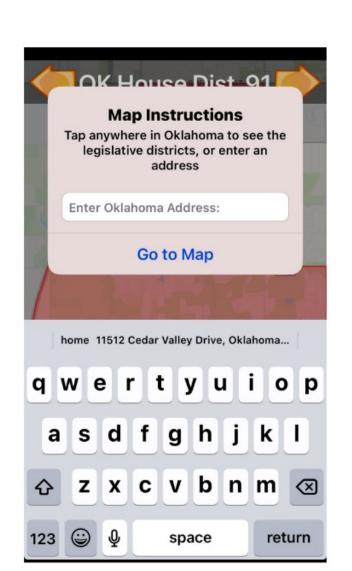
HOWTO ADVOCATE

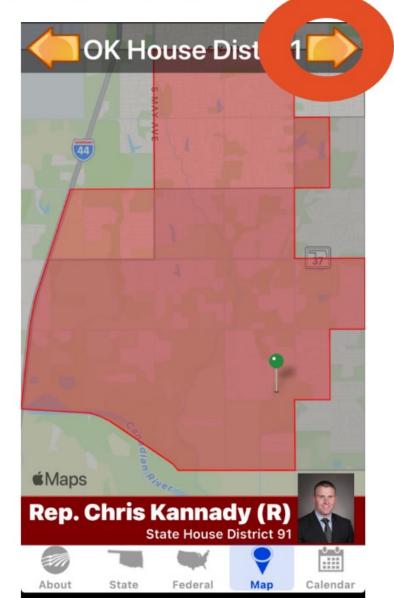
LOCATE YOUR LEGISLATOR

Find My Legislator This search will indicate the legislator for a specific address according to the districts drawn in 2011. For current district maps, please consult the 2011 Senate district maps or 2011 House district maps. **Specify Address** Address 1: Required Address 2: Optional City: Required State: Required Zip: Required If your zip code is represented by more than one legislator, you may need to enter the zip code plus four digits to find your legislator. You can look up the nine-digit zip code at the U.S. Postal Service website: https://tools.usps.com/go/zip-code-lookup.htm Submit Reset

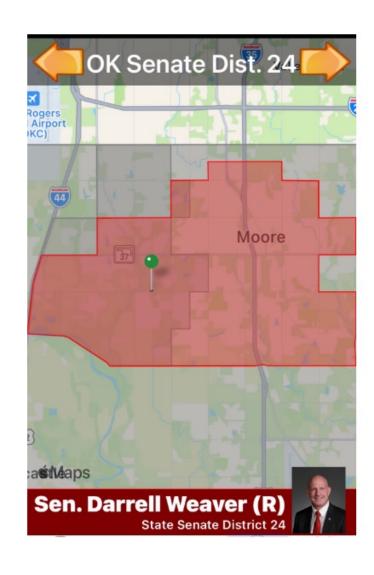
LOCATE YOUR LEGISLATOR

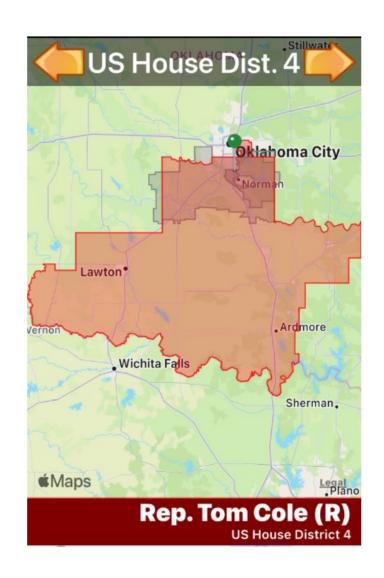






LOCATE YOUR LEGISLATOR

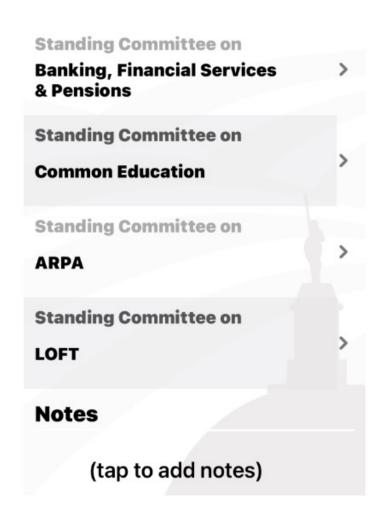




CONTACT YOUR LEGISLATOR



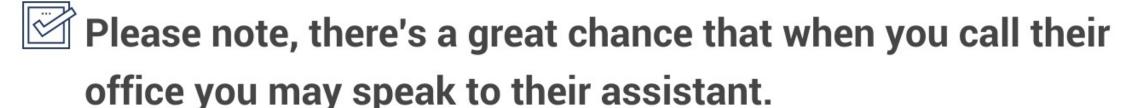




CALL YOUR LEGISLATOR



Can be an effective way to communicate with your legislator.







WRITE YOUR LEGISLATOR

- Use your own words.
- Keep your message focused.
- Be brief.
- Be specific.
- Explain how these issues affect your district.
- Know your facts.
- Be accurate and honest.
- Be timely
- Be persistent.
- Say "thank you."
- Don't be negative or threatening.

Your Street Address City, State, Zip Code Date

The Honorable (Insert Elected Official)
Street Address
City, State, Zip Code

Dear (Insert Elected Official),

<u>Paragraph 1:</u> Introductory paragraph. Introduce yourself, position and school. Include specific action you are requesting the elected official to take. (Example: Please vote NO on HB 1111.)

<u>Paragraph 2:</u> A paragraph explaining significance, why this action needs to be taken. Provide support for the action you want taken, may take 1-2 paragraphs (Example: HB 1111 is helpful/harmful to our state's education system because X, Y, Z.)

<u>Final Paragraph:</u> Repeat the action you want taken. Include a sentence thanking the elected official for their consideration.

Sincerely, (Your written signature)

VISIT YOUR LEGISLATOR





Be prepared.



INVITE YOUR LEGISLATOR TO VISIT

Best time: During the fall, when the legislature is not in session, invite your legislator to visit your school.

Next Best: On Fridays during legislative session legislators are not in session.

*Be sure to plan ahead, and be flexible.

DO'S & DON'T

Use personal time and funds to support a political party, political action committee (PAC), a candidate or state question.

Do Not: Use school property, time or funds for a political party, political action committee (PAC), a candidate or state question. This includes but is not limited to school copiers, telephones, email accounts, computers, paper and supplies.

On your personal time, outside of work, engage in political activity. Such as placing signs in the yard of your home, donate personal resources to a campaign, placing a campaign bumper sticker on a personal vehicle and attending political forums.

Do Not: Use or authorize the use of public funds, property or time to engage in activities to influence the results of an election for state office or a state question. Post materials in your office that do not advocate for or against a candidate, state question, or other election BUT offers general information. This information must be factual in nature.

Do Not: Post or distribute campaign materials in any building or other property owned, leased or occupied by the State of Oklahoma, except as permitted by law.

Discuss political issues or state question campaigns that directly benefit your school or organization with others on your personal time.

Do Not: Engage in political activities during school hours or while wearing a uniform or school identification in favor of any candidate or a state question campaign.

Use your personal phone or electronic mail to support a political party a political action committee, a candidate or a state question campaign on personal time.

Do Not: Email from your school address to advocate for or against any candidate or to vote for or against any state question or state election.

STAY

INFORMED





February 5, 2021

Gov. Kevin Stitt kicked off the second session of the 57th Legislature on Monday, February 3, with his State of the State address before both chambers. The House and Senate convened briefly on the floor this week with most work occurring in committee meetings.

Stitt delivers first State of the State address

Click here to download the Governor's Address

During his address, Governor Stitt outlined his top priorities for the year and here are the a few of the highlights.

Five takeaways from Gov. Kevin Stitt's State of the State speech:

1. COVID-19 response

Praising Oklahomans for following his advice of taking "personal responsibility" to combat the COVID-19 pandemic, Stitt painted a rosy picture of what's next for the state amid the unprecedented health crisis.

He promised more COVID-19 vaccines are on the way, partly a result of the Biden administration seeking speed up the vaccine rollout and buy more doses directly from Pfizer and Moderna.

"My vision is to get our summer back, and we can do it by continuing to lead the nation in vaccinations," Stitt said.

Oklahoma is among the leading states for vaccination administration per capita, but the state is still months away from having widespread vaccinations that could halt

QUESTIONS?