Lobbying 101

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Introduction

- → Why are we doing this?
 - Bring awareness to bills to support or not support
 - ◆ The youth vote/voice matters
- → What do we want to accomplish?
 - Policymakers taking into account the perspectives of the youth
- → Who are we trying to impact?
 - People who vote, should vote, and policy makers
- → When do we want our efforts to show results?
 - ◆ The next legislative session

Process/Method

Step one: Visit the AZ Legislature Website

Step two: Identify the bills that are related to school safety, guns, or mental health

Step three: Did the bill pass? How far did it go?

Step four: Do you support the bill or not?

Step five: List your reasons for being for or against the bill

Step six: Find who introduced the bill and supported it

Step seven: Contact the legislators about the bill

HB 2192

Summary of bill:

- This bill would require gun owners to keep guns and ammunition stored in a locked container.
- Did not pass in the last legislative session, but has the support of Governor Katie Hobbs.

Reasons we support:

- We know that most gun violence occurs with firearms that have been bought legally and so ensuring legal firearms are stored safely will be a step towards less gun violence.
- This bill should not negatively affect anyone but it will positively affect people
 - Less access to guns = less gun violence

HB 2192

Who did we reach out to:

- We reached out to Representative Langdon who introduced the bill in the last session
- We tried to set up a meeting but could never find a time that worked for the representative but we were able to send over our questions
 - Still waiting for a response

Questions:

- 1. Why do you think that HB 2192 is an important bill to get passed?
- 2. Are you planning on trying to get HB 2192 or a bill similar to it passed in the next legislative session?
- 3. Why do you think that this HB 2192 did not pass last session and what would need to change for it or a bill similar to it for it to pass in the future?
- 4. How can youth involvement help support HB 2192 and bills like it get passed?

Summary:

- SB 1197 is a recently passed bill that effectively eliminated many of the legal fees and fines involved in the juvenile court system.
- The few remaining fines/ community service hours relating to DUI charges and community restitution have also been significantly reduced.

Reasons for Support:

- We support the continuation and evolution of this bill in the hopes that it will assist in the deterioration of the school to prison pipeline.
- This bill will help the families of juvenile delinquents to reinvest their money, that would have otherwise been spent on legal fees and fines, into avenues that will help to prevent the juveniles recidivism.

Contacting the Authors/ Sponsors:

- We reached out to Senator Alma Hernandez who co-sponsored this bill via email,
 - Unfortunately, Sen. Hernandez and her office did not respond to our request for a meeting.
- If Sen. Hernandez had responded, we would have liked to discuss why she believes this bill is important, what she hopes to accomplish with this bill, and if there is anything she would have wrote differently given the opportunity.

Possible Changes:

• What we would have liked to see included in this bill, or written into an additional bill by Sen. Hernandez, is actions relating to juvenile court sentencing lengths.

Summary:

• The bill addresses interference with or disruption of educational institutions, emphasizing penalties for such actions, specifying conditions for firearm possession on school grounds, and outlining exceptions for certain individuals and situations. Notably, the bill prohibits educational institutions from adopting policies restricting the carrying of firearms by parents or legal guardians with valid concealed weapons permits.

Reasons we do not support:

- Regardless of who's using the firearm, having them in an educational institution is not safe and could contribute to a less effective learning environment.
- Having guns on campus could escalate conflicts especially if parents or guardians are armed
- Allowing too many people with guns on campus could lead to law enforcement having trouble identifying potential threats

Contacting the Authors/ Sponsors:

- We reached out to multiple senators who were involved in this bill including Nancy Barto, who introduced the bill, David Gowan, Janae Shamp, and Frank Carroll
 - Unfortunately, none of their offices responded to our emails.
- If any of them had responded, we would have liked to discuss why they supported this bill, and tried to convince him to reconsider.

Possible Changes:

- Schools/School districts should be able to impose restrictions on firearm use on their campuses.
 - Even if they're not allowed to ban firearms on campus, they should be allowed to place restrictions as they see fit
 - Not allowing

Intended Impact

- What do we mean to accomplish?
 - A road map for constituents to follow on how to get civically involved within their state government and how they could be make an impact
- Who else is doing what we're trying to do?
 - O Bring attention to previous legislation that could potentially be re-introduced this next 2024 session
 - Show support to those who stood their ground against harmful gun legislation
 - Show support to those who introduced legislation that could be impactful to the community by bringing about additional resources
- Who are we trying to impact?
 - All constituents affected by school violence
 - All constituents affected by gun violence

How Can You Take Action?

How to Send an Email to your Representative or Senator

- 1. Pick a cause, bill, or issue
- 2. Find out where the Representatives or Senators stand on bills/issues you care about.
- 3. Find their email- this should be found easily with a quick google search.
- 4. Email them!!

What will the email say?

Greetings (Professional Title, Name),

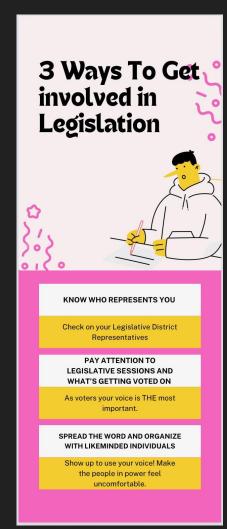
We are a (Whoever you are) interested in meeting with (Title Name) regarding (Bill or Issue). (The issue that you want to address)

We would appreciate 5-10 minutes of your time to discuss your (involvement/ sponsor) of (bill/issue) last session.

Our availability includes: (Day and Time)

Thank you in advance for your time and consideration.

Best Regards, (Name)



Other ways

to get

educated

- Join clubs that are taking action! (Students Demand Action)
- Make sure you are registered to vote and have updated your voter registration.
- Keep an eye out for new bills that are affecting issues you care about.
- Vote!!