



Advocacy Tactics: Calling Your Legislator

Telephone Call

Your phone call will be most effective if you follow a few simple guidelines:

- Prepare your remarks prior to your call.
- Keep it short.
- Anticipate speaking to a staff member. Ask to talk with the legislative assistant responsible for healthcare issues.
- Identify yourself as a constituent.
- If you are calling your **REPRESENTATIVE**, say that you are calling to ask her to become a co-sponsor of **H.R. 1844, The Comprehensive Cancer Care Improvement Act**.
- If you are calling your **SENATOR**, say that you are calling to ask him to become a co-sponsor of **S. 1773, The Comprehensive Cancer Care Improvement Act**.
- If you are a cancer survivor, caregiver, or provider, mention that and use a quick example from your own experience to highlight the problem.
- Be positive and courteous.
- Leave your name, address, and phone number. Request that your legislator follow up with a letter. Ask for his or her position in writing on the issue.

Sample Telephone Script

House

Hello. My name is [John Smith] and I live in [location]. I am calling to ask Rep. [NAME] to become a co-sponsor of the **Comprehensive Cancer Care Act Improvement, H.R. 1844**, and to work toward its passage. H.R. 1844 would encourage a system of coordinated care for cancer survivors by helping us keep track of the treatments we have had and the care we should plan for in the future. As a cancer survivor I know all too well the devastating impact of cancer and the confusion of navigating the medical system to address the long-term effects of the disease. H.R. 1844 will go a long way toward ensuring quality cancer care for people like me. I'd really appreciate it Rep. [NAME] would send me a response, if that's possible. I can be reached at [E-MAIL ADDRESS]. Thank you.

Senate

Hello. My name is [John Smith] and I live in [state]. I am calling to ask Sen. [NAME] to become a co-sponsor of the **Comprehensive Cancer Care Improvement Act, S. 1773**, and to work toward its passage. S. 1773 would encourage a system of coordinated care for cancer survivors by helping us keep track of the treatments we have had and the care we should plan for in the future. As a cancer survivor I know all too well the devastating impact of cancer and the confusion of navigating the medical system to address the long-term effects of the disease. S. 1773 will go a long way toward ensuring quality cancer care for people like me. I'd really appreciate it Sen. [NAME] would send me a response, if that's possible. I can be reached at [E-MAIL ADDRESS]. Thank you.

For more information, visit NCCS's Take Action center at <http://www.canceradvocacy.org/get-involved/> or contact us at advocacy@canceradvocacy.org or 301.562.2772.