



Us United Activism Actions Toolkit

This is a living document. We hope to be always adding new actions to this based on your feedback and our shared experiences.


1. Track new legislation. Call state and federal Congressional members involved.
 - a. Assess chances of enactment based upon Congressional member proposing the legislation and/or Prognosis Score given (specific web site does this; see picture below)
 - b. If 30% chance of legislation being brought to vote, go to action d & e.
 - c. If Congressional member proposing legislation is prominent, go do d & e.
 - d. Call Congressional member sponsoring legislation (see 2)
 - e. Call all the members on that same committee that sponsored legislation (see 2)
 - f. Track state legislation by search "legis" and your state.
 - i. Example: <http://www.legis.la.gov/legis/home.aspx>
 - g. Track federal legislation (see picture below for example; note **Prognosis**)
 - i. <https://www.govtrack.us/>
 - ii. <https://www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/>

Overview

Introduced: **Oct 28, 2015**

Status: **Referred to Committee** on **Oct 28, 2015**

This bill was assigned to a congressional committee on October 28, 2015, which will consider it before possibly sending it on to the House or Senate as a whole.

Sponsor:  **Judy Chu**
Representative for California's 27th congressional district
Democrat

Text:  **Read Text »**
Last Updated: Oct 28, 2015
Length: 21 pages

Prognosis: 0% chance of being enacted ([details](#))

2. Advocate for specific issues in your community by calling your elected representatives (and speaking to their staff)
 - a. State House and Senate
 - b. Federal House and Senate
 - c. Try to write a 5 sentence statement before you call
3. Prepare for protest actions
 - a. Start assembling an email AND telephone list of members in your state by
 - i. City
 - ii. Region
 - b. Ascertain best way (email or text) to reach each member quickly (2-4 hours)
4. Plan a State Legislature day.
 - a. We should all take field trips to visit our state legislators, preferably in large groups at least twice per year.
5. Plan a District day.
 - a. When your legislators are not in session, they are at home and easier to find. You can set up appointments to meet with them.
6. Subscribe to local newspapers to see how they might feature news regarding your issues
 - a. Local newspapers are more likely to welcome your interaction with their reporters
 - b. Often Feature News reporters are looking for stories that our not necessarily “breaking” news but important to their readers. Ideas could include:
 - i. What schools have been shut down in your district?
 - ii. What water purity issues are your schools experiencing?
 - iii. What weekend crime is occurring in your city? Can it be linked to lack of schools in that same district? (Excuse me, I am from Chicago)
7. Research and locate your local electronic news outlets. There are many and you can interact with them in the same manner as above. In Chicago, it is DNAinfo Chicago. They have run my stories and used my ideas as background. They send photographers and ask intelligent questions.
8. Consider writing a “letter to the editor” on an issue that concerns you. Large newspapers will often print these (Chicago Tribune, LA Times, for example).
9. Consider writing a “letter to the author” of an article that you feel did not portray an issue correctly. Rather than a comment that gets lost with the rest of the comments, consider writing a letter to the author and CC it to the editor. Usually there is a 15 day window to respond to articles in this manner.

10. Consider writing for Huffington Post. Huffington Post will publish materials that they think they have an audience for. Huff Post is not interested in politics or viewpoint; they are interested in selling ad space next to your story. If your story is well-written and provocative, they might print it.
11. Consider writing for other local area newspapers. Often they are looking for material to publish. In Chicago, there are at least 10 local newspapers; they all need content; they all present opportunities to be heard.
12. Start at number 1 and work your way down again.