

## How To Lobby With Your Elected Officials

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- Always be courteous and polite.
- Acknowledge their professional and personal background and discuss common interests.
- Tell them what the problem is, and what you would like them to do about it.
- Make your point concisely. Their schedule is at least as busy as yours is.
- Help educate them about your issue. They have to make decisions on hundreds of issues each legislative session and they need credible information from you to help them with their decisions. If you give them valid information, they will continue to use you as a resource in the future.
- Let them know if you are a constituent of theirs. Elected officials are often more open to suggestions from a voter from their legislative district.
- Let them know if other constituents in their legislative district share your position, but do not exaggerate support for your position.
- Let them know if other government leaders and key interest groups share your position.

- Offer to arrange and conduct a tour of your facility. They will see first hand the issues you face on a daily basis.
- NEVER mix your issue with campaign financing. Political contributions do NOT “buy” political support. It is unprofessional, unethical and can be a criminal offense.
- When asked a question, answer it briefly, but answer it. Then restate your position.
- Thank them for any work they have done on your behalf.

## Contacting the President and Other Members of Congress

E-mail to the President can be sent through the following Internet site:

[www.sdhca.org/~sdhca/legislative/](http://www.sdhca.org/~sdhca/legislative/)

Mailing addresses, telephone numbers, e-mail addresses and other information for members of Congress can be obtained from the following Internet site:

[www.sdhca.org/~sdhca/legislative/](http://www.sdhca.org/~sdhca/legislative/)



South Dakota  
Health Care Association<sup>SM</sup>

804 N Western Ave.  
Sioux Falls, SD 57104  
605-339-2071  
[sdhca@sdhca.org](mailto:sdhca@sdhca.org)  
[www.sdhca.org](http://www.sdhca.org)



South Dakota  
Health Care Association<sup>SM</sup>

## A Guide to Effective Lobbying



## Contacting Your Members of Congress

### Senator Mike Rounds

The Honorable Mike Rounds  
The United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Senator Rounds' Office:  
4 Russell Senate Courtyard  
Phone: 202-224-5842  
Fax: 202-228-5765

Website: rounds.senate.gov

### Senator John Thune

The Honorable John Thune  
The United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Senator Thune's Office:  
Dirksen Senate Office Building 511  
Phone: 202-224-2321  
Fax: 202-228-2047

Website: thune.senate.gov

### Congresswoman Kristi Noem

The Honorable Kristi Noem  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Congresswoman Noem's Office:  
226 Cannon House Office Building  
Phone: 202-225-2801  
Fax: 202-225-5823

Website: noem.house.gov

## Contacting Your State Legislators

During the annual Legislative Session, your  
Legislators can be contacted as follows:

**Fax:** (Must be addressed to specific legislator.)  
605-773-6806

### Phone Messages:

Senate: 605-773-3821

House: 605-773-3851

### Mail:

Legislative Post Office  
500 East Capitol  
Pierre, SD 57501-5070

Suggested Salutations:  
Dear Senator:/Dear Representative:

**E-mail:** Addresses available at South Dakota  
Legislative Research Council website  
under Current Legislators.  
[legis.state.sd.us](http://legis.state.sd.us)

Home addresses, telephone and fax numbers  
for your Legislators are available from the  
Association Office or the SDHCA Web Page  
at: [www.sdhca.org](http://www.sdhca.org)

### South Dakota Legislature Internet Site:

[www.legis.sd.gov](http://www.legis.sd.gov)

## Contacting Your State Officials

### Governor Dennis Daugaard

Office of the Governor  
500 East Capitol Avenue  
Pierre, SD 57501-5070

Phone: 605-773-3212  
Fax: 605-773-4711

Website: [sd.gov/governor](http://sd.gov/governor)

### Secretary Lynne Valenti

Department of Social Services  
Kneip Building  
700 Governors Drive  
Pierre, SD 57501-2291

Phone: 605-773-3165  
Fax: 605-773-4855

E-mail: [lynne.valenti@state.sd.us](mailto:lynne.valenti@state.sd.us)

### Interim Secretary Kim Malsam-Rysdon

Department of Health  
600 East Capitol Avenue  
Pierre, SD 57501-5070

Phone: 605-773-3361  
Fax: 605-773-5683

E-mail: [kim.malsam-rysdon@state.sd.us](mailto:kim.malsam-rysdon@state.sd.us)