

Tips for Visiting with Legislators and Staff

1. Introduce yourself. If you are with an organization such as Association of Texas Midwives or Texans for Midwifery, say so. Use proper forms of address.
2. Mention where you are from, especially if you are a constituent or from close to their district.
3. Let them know if you have had children with midwives and/or why the issue is important to you. If you are a midwife, mention that you are a small business owner in their district.
4. Ask - *What do you know about Midwifery?* In order to find a starting point for any general education discussion.
5. Cover 2-3 points of our message (use provided talking points).
6. Keep the conversation positive – i.e. *What you like about midwives* instead of *what you don't like about doctors*.
7. Do NOT share your birth story. You can share general statements such as how impressed you were with how your midwife monitored your baby's heart rate or how your midwife identified the need to transfer swiftly.
8. If you are asked a question that you *do not* know the answer to – ask for contact information and let them know that someone will get back to them.
9. Leave the packet of information with them.
10. Point out the contacts provided and let them know we are available if they have any other questions.
11. Ask for a business card and thank them for their time.