



ADVOCACY TOOLKIT

Joint Initiatives for Youth + Families is offering this Advocacy Toolkit to empower individuals to stay informed and take action to make ones voice heard.

GET TO KNOW ELECTED OFFICIALS

Knowing who serves in elected roles, learning more about their values, and understanding their positions on issues are key steps as you begin any advocacy effort. The links for finding elected officials on the **Jl Advocacy Page** will lead you to candidate profiles and voting records (as available).

CONTACT, WRITE/CALL YOUR CONGRESSMAN.


It can be intimidating to contact your elected officials to share how a policy or proposed legislation personally impacts you, your colleagues, or community. You may wonder if your opinion matters or if policy makers care about what you think. You may also wonder where to start? Writing a letters or making calls are a great way to show your opposition or support of policies.

Here are some tips on how to get started:

- Open the letter or phone call with the appropriate greeting.
- Get straight to the point. Clearly address the legislation that you either support or oppose
- Back up your concerns: use statistics and personal stories (Sample Letter Outline)
- Decide on the most appropriate form of communication and consider the timing. If legislation is set to be voted on quickly, you may want to call your official.



SCAN ME

Click **HERE** or scan code  for tips on contacting your elected representatives and sample letters.

bit.ly/AdvocacyTip-Letters

How to Write a Letter to Your Elected Representative

One of the hallmarks of democracy is individuals' ability to share their views, request information or help, and seek to persuade those elected...

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