

Preparing for OLC Legislative Day – 2018

The annual Ohio Library Council (OLC) [Legislative Day](#) will be held **Wednesday, April 11, 2018**. The OLC is sending letters to all legislators advising them that library representatives will be calling them to arrange appointments.

In addition to the information below, the OLC will present a [Legislative Day Preparation Webinar](#) on **Monday, March 19 at 1:00 p.m.**

The following tips and guidelines are provided to help you make the day as beneficial as possible for you and your legislators:

- Contact your legislator to make an appointment for April 11.
- Coordinate legislative visits with other library representatives in your area by working with your OLC Legislative Network Representative. **THIS IS CRITICAL**. Legislators are swamped with visits, meetings, and hearings. Combining visits with other libraries is a better use of everyone's time and can mean a bigger impact on the legislator. It is also a good way to demonstrate collaboration. If you are uncertain which libraries are in your legislative district, contact your OLC Legislative Network Representative by checking the Advocacy page of the OLC Website (<http://olc.org/resources/government-relations/advocacy/>).
- OLC Legislative Day attendees are encouraged to **WEAR BLUE!** This will help legislators easily identify library supporters in the hallways of the Ohio Statehouse.
- The theme for Legislative Day is *Ohio Libraries Lead*. Our lobbying efforts will focus on the value, impact and services provided by libraries with an emphasis on workforce development, the Return on Investment (ROI) of public libraries and what we are doing in relation to the opioid epidemic. Some of the highlights include:
 - **Briefings and Tools** – Be sure to attend one of the morning briefings to receive the latest information from the Statehouse and to pick up your packet which will include additional tools for use during meetings with your legislators.
 - **Workforce Development Update** – Ryan Burgess, Director of the Governor's Office on Workforce Transformation (OWT) will be updating the group on the various projects between OWT and Ohio's public libraries. Find out how your library can play an active role in these initiatives.
 - **Session** – Both the Ohio House and the Ohio Senate will be in session at 1:30 p.m. Please try to stay for part of session and let your legislators know – they like to recognize their constituents during session.
- The Ohio Statehouse and the Riffe Center recently enacted new security measures including keycard turnstiles and metal detectors. Be sure to allot additional time between meetings for possible security delays and be sure to review the following security protocols.

- Statehouse/Ohio Senate Offices Security FAQ at <http://www.ohiostatehouse.org/about/general-information/security-faq>
- Riffe Center/Ohio House Offices Security FAQ at https://www.com.ohio.gov/documents/COM_securityfactsheet.pdf
- Take a picture with your legislator during your meeting! Tweet the picture, using #OHLibrariesLead and post it on the library's Twitter and/or Facebook page. Remind your legislator to retweet the picture! Be sure to include the photo in your next newsletter or share it with local media.