Preparing for OLC Legislative Day - 2022

The annual Ohio Library Council (OLC) Legislative Day will be held Wednesday, April 6, 2022. The OLC is sending letters to all legislators advising them that library representatives will be calling them to arrange appointments.

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

- Coordinate legislative visits on April 6 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.

- This year our lobbying efforts will focus on educating legislators on the essential library services and resources provided by libraries during the pandemic. The theme for the Legislative Day is Ohio Libraries Connect. Thank legislators for maintaining critical library funding in the state budget. Share how those resources are being utilized and impacting the local community. Show how libraries have embraced various opportunities to serve its patrons. During this non-budget year, we want our lobbying efforts to focus on the value, impact and services provided by libraries.

  ✓ 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.

  ✓ Ohio Senate President Pro Tempore Jay Hottinger – Senator Jay Hottinger (R-Newark) will be joining us to share his insight on what’s in store for the remaining half of the 134th General Assembly. We also will be honoring Sen. Hottinger with a very special award this year so be sure to be in the room when he speaks to attendees beginning at 9:30 a.m.

  ✓ Ohio First Lady Fran DeWine – First Lady Fran DeWine will be joining us at 10:00 a.m. to discuss the importance of early childhood literacy and provide an update on the Governor’s Imagination Library. OLC will also be presenting Mrs. DeWine with a special recognition at this time.
• The Ohio Statehouse has special security measures including keycard turnstiles and metal detectors. Be sure to allot additional time between meetings for possible security delays. Please review the Statehouse Security FAQ at: http://www.ohiostatehouse.org/Assets/Files/1002056.pdf

• Take a picture with your legislator during your meeting! Don’t forget to:
  ✓ Share the picture on social media and tag your legislator.
  ✓ Thank your legislator for meeting with you.
  ✓ Tweet the picture, post it on the library’s Facebook page, post it on the library’s website, send it to your local media, include it in your next newsletter.
  ✓ Remind your legislator to share the picture as well – they love to highlight their meetings with constituents on social media!
  ✓ Use the hashtag #OHLibrariesConnect

In addition to the above information, the OLC will present a Legislative Day Preparation Webinar on Monday, March 21 at 1:00 p.m.