Making the Most of Our Time on Capitol Hill
1. Getting to Capitol Hill
About D.C.
Getting to Capitol Hill
Don’t Bring. . .

Before entering the Capitol Visitor Center, all visitors are screened by a magnetometer and all items that are permitted inside the building are screened by an x-ray device. Prohibited items include:

- Liquid, including water
- Food or beverages of any kind, including fruit and unopened packaged food
- Aerosol containers
- Non-aerosol spray (Prescriptions for medical needs are permitted.)
- Any pointed object, e.g. knitting needles and letter openers (Pens and pencils are permitted.)
- Any bag larger than 18” wide x 14” high x 8.5” deep
- Electric stun guns, martial arts weapons or devices
- Guns, replica guns, ammunition, and fireworks
- Knives of any size
- Mace and pepper spray
- Razors and box cutters
2. Who Are You Meeting With?
They are online.

Today, more legislators and staff are communicating with their constituents via social media sites like Facebook and Twitter.

- 451 out of 541 Representatives and Senators were registered with Twitter
- 487 (90%) were registered with Facebook
- More than 30,000 Tweets
- More than 16,000 Facebook posts
3. Lobbying for Change
4. Key Points
5. Social Media Game Plan
Who is your point person?

Chose someone from your group who will be sharing on social media throughout your lobby visits.

They should:

• Have and be willing to use their smart phone throughout the day to tweet and take photos.

• Have a Twitter account and be comfortable tagging other users and using hashtags appropriately.
Do your homework.

1. Determine who from your group also has twitter and follow them in advance so you can easily tag them in your tweets and photos.

2. Find and follow the official twitter accounts for the lawmakers/staff you’ll be visiting.

3. Draft some potential tweets that you can copy and paste easily.

4. Be sure to research hashtags relevant to the subjects you’ll be discussing with your lawmakers so you can be ready to use them in your tweets.
Good Tweets have:

• A short, concise message that sometimes has a call to action (sign our petition, support this bill, etc.)

• A photo or video

• A relevant hashtag

• Another twitter user’s handle
Some sample tweets.

- Lynn Brown Summers @lynn_cct
  Rep. Norma Torres talking with local USW USWRR16 team needs her support a no vote TTP & OHSA

- Be Skeptical @CraigFoster999
  #USWRR16 Local 1219 Rapid Response about to talk Rep Tim Murphy

- USW6787 @USW6787BH
  District 7 Steelworkers meeting with Congressman Pete Visclosky on the damage TPP will cause. #USWRR16
Wrap Up & Good Luck!