



TIPS FOR A SUCCESSFUL DAY ON THE HILL

- Please see <https://www.dhs.gov/real-id-public-faqs> for details regarding ID requirements for entering different buildings. The Capitol does not require ID but some of the federal agency buildings might. The State of Washington is compliant with REAL ID requirements, so your regular WA driver's license will suffice.
- Wear comfortable shoes and seriously consider bringing a compact umbrella.
- Water bottles are not allowed in some buildings, so you may want to carry a disposable one.
- For our purposes, you do not need a rental car – metro, taxicabs, and Lyft/Uber are the easiest way to get around town.
- If you have and want to distribute them, don't forget your business cards.

TIPS FOR SUCCESSFUL INTERACTIONS WITH REPRESENTATIVES AND SENATORS

- Thank the Congressional member for any votes they may have made in support of Puget Sound funding initiatives and policies.
- Short and very concise communication is best. Think about a 20- to 30-second "summary statement" that you can use in group meetings so that your own lens or perspective enhances the Key Messages.
- Congressional members often indicate that maintaining connection with constituents is important. Make what you share personal and locally relevant as one of that member's constituents.
- The shared practice for this trip is that, with respect to meetings that are organized for Puget Sound Day on the Hill, the group—via the Team Lead—will only distribute the materials created for this purpose. This does not apply to any meetings that you may have set up through other channels.
- Congressional staff are an incredibly important part of the legislative process. More than one seasoned D.C. professional has confessed that they find meetings with staff to have more impact than those with members (but we can keep that to ourselves!).
- If you do not know the answer to a question, say so and offer to follow up. Ask to whom the information should be provided, then make certain that you do follow up. This is an opportunity to extend the interaction and continue building that relationship.
- Leave lots of time between meetings if you must travel from one building to another. Some of the distances are deceptively far, and security checks can slow you down.
- If members of your group are not there on time, get started anyway—we do not want to waste any of the precious time we have with Congressional staff or members.