

Legislative Advocacy



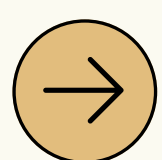
What is legislative advocacy?

The process of partnering with your state legislators to improve election integrity - being an advocate, not an adversary.



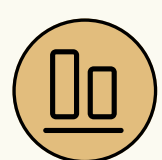
What does an advocate do?

- Your primary mission is to achieve legislative solutions to your election integrity goals without compromising your principles.
- Your primary method is to establish beneficial partnerships with legislators to reform your state's election laws as needed to ensure fair and legal elections.
- Be prepared - be professional - be a partner with legislators



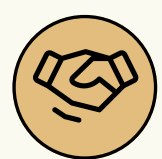
How do you get started?

- Get to know Election laws
- Federal - Voting Rights Act (VRA), National Voter Registration Act (NVRA), Help America Vote Act (HAVA), Military and Overseas Voter Empowerment Act (MOVE).
- State - Read your state's election code - state laws govern elections, local officials administer
- Fraud-Friendly Laws - Same-day registration, no voter identification verification, lax mail ballot procedures, no eligibility verification at registration, lax voter roll maintenance.
- Get to know your state legislature.



How do you set priorities?

- Research - Identify problems in your state and possible solutions - look to other state.
- Primary - Which issues have most impact on election integrity? are achievable? are manageable with given resources?
- Summarize - The most important issues that are achievable and manageable - may be just one.



How do you partner with your legislature?

- Meet your legislator - who is willing to support election reforms?
- Understand the legislative process: schedule, leaders, committees, how bills become law:
 - Drafting legislation - identify bill sponsors, provide research
 - Testifying at committee hearings - When, where, how - watch, provide research.
 - Passing bills through the full house / assembly and senate - know the process
 - Following up - know when and how you can influence a bill - engage / mobilize supporters
 - Be prepared to travel to your capitol



Can you make a Difference? Yes!

- Legislative resource can be found at www.truethevote.org, in your state tab. Legislative advocacy training can be accessed via the knowledge network. Log in at www.truethevote.org.