

HOW TO EFFECTIVELY PROVIDE ELECTION SUPPORT

Regardless of the time of year or where we are in an election cycle, legislators are assumed to be running for election. Term limits have increased the necessity for senators and representatives to be actively campaigning all through an election cycle. They are either working to pay off election expenses from the previous election, planning for re-election, or running for a different office, if term limited. Fund raising is always important and is outlined in this website. Equally important is your contribution of personal time and effort to the legislator's re-election activities. Here's how you can help your Senator or Representative:

1. Start by contacting the chair of his/her re-election committee. Offer to help in any way you can. Attend a campaign strategy meeting to show your commitment. Even in a non-election year there are many jobs available, so ask for an assignment.
2. Place signs in yards, starting with your own. Get a list of addresses for delivery. Pick up signs after election.
3. Go door to door delivering brochures and asking for support from voters. It's hard work, but very important.
4. Help set up and run a phone bank to contact voters.
5. Help with stuffing, sealing, address labeling, stamping and mailing campaign literature.
6. Invite friends to a coffee in your home for the legislator. Enlist the support and help of friends, family and staff.
7. Be sure to register and vote.
8. Hold a fundraiser in your home, your club or a local restaurant. Set up the date with the legislator first. Send letters of invitation to friends and business associates. Tell them your legislator needs their support and will meet with the group personally. Most will be eager to attend such a private event.
9. Offer to assist with regular mailings to constituents. Get to know the legislator's staff as you save them some work.
10. Volunteer to work at your legislator's summer fund-raising events -- golf outings, fun runs, etc. -- and buy a few tickets.
11. Assist in staffing your legislator's booth at local festivals, county fairs, home shows, etc. Check with the local Chamber of Commerce for dates and rules for the events.

12. Arrange to have your legislator speak to local professional or service organizations of which you are a member.