2022
Minnesota Chapter of the
American Academy of Pediatrics

MNAAP is dedicated to improving the health and well being of all Minnesota children and teens.

Tips for Talking with Minnesota Legislators

Before the meeting:
- Do some quick research on your legislator to see where they stand.
- If going with a group, “huddle” with your team to decide how you will introduce your topic (get to your breakout room early).

Address your state legislator as:
- Senator - if they are a member of the Minnesota Senate
- Representative - if they are a member of the Minnesota House
- Do not refer to them as Congressman, Congresswoman or Congressperson

Know your issue:
- Introduce yourself and your occupation as a pediatrician, a medical student, or a pediatric resident.
- Refer to www.mnaap.org/ for background on MNAAP's other legislative priorities this session.
- Use personal experience and stories when possible to illustrate the points you are trying to make

Be brief and concise:
- Tell them why you support or oppose an issue in terms they will understand
- Be sincere, but brief, in sharing your concerns about an issue and its impact
- Ask them whether you can count on their support on the issue.

Offer to be of assistance to them:
- Share your contact info and offer to be a resource on health care issues.
- Many legislators offer updates on legislative issues by email or host district updates. Consider attending/subscribing to their updates.
- Join other physicians in hosting a legislative gathering in your district or a your worksite-strength in numbers. If your time permits, you can be involved in their re-election campaigns
- Send a thank you email and/or tweet (Tag: #mnleg @mnaap).

Other Resources:
Learn more about who represents you: http://www.leg.state.mn.us/leg/districtfinder.aspx
Minnesota legislative schedule: http://www.leg.state.mn.us/calendarday.aspx