

2022

Minnesota Chapter of the
American Academy of Pediatrics

Minnesota Chapter

American Academy of Pediatrics 
DEDICATED TO THE HEALTH OF ALL CHILDREN®

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>

AAP state advocacy: <http://www.aap.org/en-us/advocacy-and-policy/state-advocacy/Pages/State-Advocacy.aspx>