Objective

A lot goes into an effective legislative effort. This checklist will help keep you on your game. Use this checklist to help set your legislative agenda and short and long-term advocacy goals. Use it to review your accomplishments after the legislature adjourns and evaluate your advocacy resources. Share the checklist with new members of your legislative committee.

Your Legislative Advocacy Checklist:

1. Can you readily identify the legislative issues that are important to ob-gyns in your state?
2. Are you able to identify what is important to legislators? The priorities of legislative leadership in the State House, Assembly and Senate?
3. Are you connecting with newly elected legislators? Before the start of the session?
4. Are you able to anticipate future threats to your legislative agenda and long-term goals?
5. Do your legislative goals fit your resources?
6. Are you able to quickly mobilize ACOG Fellows behind a political issue?
7. Are you recruiting and involving more ob-gyns?
8. Are you making political friends and allies before you need them? Who are your coalition partners?
9. How do you interact with your State Medical Society and their lobbying team:
   - Are ob-gyns represented on the Society’s legislative committee? Inter-specialty council?
   - What is the Society’s track record on women’s health issues?
   - Is the Society informed of the ACOG position on issues and your legislative agenda and priorities?
10. At the end of the legislative session:
   - Are you thanking your Legislator champions?
   - Re-evaluating your legislative agenda?
11. Are you using Ob-GynPAC to advance your legislative agenda and grow your influence:
   - To help reelect a “friendly” incumbent state legislator?
   - To thank a state legislator for his/her past vote on a bill?