



## Massachusetts Transgender Political Coalition

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### Use your time with legislator or their staff to tell your personal story about why this legislation is important to you.

- Your relationship to the transgender community, or why civil rights laws like this bill matter to you
- Why does this issue matter to you? (Do you care about civil rights, do you know transgender people who have been discriminated against or harassed, etc.)
- Have you experienced discrimination or violence because of your gender identity or gender expression? If so, use your one strongest example story in your letter.
- Who do you know that is has affected? (family member, partner, friend, co-worker, teacher, etc)
- Why should YOUR legislators care?

### Other Tips

- You do not need to go into the details of the legislation.
- If a legislator or their staff asks you a question and you are not sure of the answer, that it ok. Write down their question and let them know that someone from MTPC will get back to them with an answer.
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Here are some other facts about yourself you may want to include in your introduction.

Don't try to use your answers to all of the suggested questions, but use the questions as a guide to think about what facts you could use to strengthen your introduction.

- How many years have you lived your legislator's district? Did you grow up there?
- Did you attend the public school system there?
- Did you originally move there to attend college and now plan to stay?
- What is your current job?
- Do you belong to a union or a professional association?
- What organizations do you belong to or lead? (Neighborhood Associations, Parent-Teacher Associations, Steering committees, Boards, Churches/Synagogues, GLBT, etc...)
- Do you have children? What school do they attend?

### The big finish:

Thank the legislator for their attention to this matter and request a response about where they stand on the bill. For instance: ***I would like to know if you will support "An Act Relative To Gender Based Discrimination And Hate Crimes"***.

### Thank them for taking the time to meet with you

*Remember you may only have 15 – 30 minutes for the meeting and you want to leave time for questions - so what are the most important things you need to get across in five minutes.*

**Please remember to fill out the "Lobby Day Meeting Outcomes" Form and return to MTPC.**