

# LWW



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS®  
OF SARATOGA COUNTY

## Lobbying

September, 2019  
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# Want to Change Something?

- **Maybe you want a stop sign on your corner.**
- **Maybe you think college should be free.**
- **Maybe you are concerned about teens being harassed by the police.**

# Lobbying the Right Government

- **Understand which level of government controls the thing you'd like to change**
- **Ask an elected official who represents you (or their staff person)**

# Know Your “Ask”

## Should the official:

- Contact someone to support your point?
- Support your idea in committee?
- Sponsor a law?
- Vote for a particular law?
- Support funding for your idea?
- Get information for you?

# Have the Facts

- **Clearly explain the problem**
- **Have some relevant statistics**
- **Outline solutions you support**
- **Don't make anything up**
- **If you don't know an answer that the official asks, promise to get back to him/her. Then do that!**



# Listen

- **Hear the official's point of view**
- **Ask clarifying questions**

# Be Polite and Show Respect

- Never call the official any demeaning name
- Thank them for listening
- Thank them for the time they have given you
- Send a written thank-you in which you again mention any points that have been agreed on.



# Resources

- <https://my.lwv.org/new-york-state>
- [www.lwvny.org](http://www.lwvny.org)
- <https://my.lwv.org/new-york-state/civics-education>
- [https://www.lwvnyonline.org/advocacy/2017/CitizenLobbyist\\_NY\\_Feb26\\_2017.pdf](https://www.lwvnyonline.org/advocacy/2017/CitizenLobbyist_NY_Feb26_2017.pdf)