



# 2024 Advocacy Day Prep Webinar

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# Register for Advocacy Day

Today is the **LAST** day to register. Do so now if you haven't already registered.

# Agenda

# Structure for Today

- Overview of Event Schedule
- Legislative Meetings
- Communicating with Lawmakers
- Legislative Priorities
- Post-Meeting Steps
- Post-Event Steps
- Questions & Contact Information

**Quick Poll!**

# Event Schedule



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# Schedule

**Tuesday, April 30, 2024**

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**9-9:30am:** Check In

**9:30-11:30am:** Morning Speaking Event

**11:30-12pm** Group Meet Up & Pictures

**12-1pm:** Lunch Break (will vary by group)

**1-3:30pm:** Legislative Meetings

**3:30-4pm:** Group Lead Returns to Atrium

# In-Person Considerations



Security Checkpoints



Navigating Two Buildings



Parking



**You must bring a valid photo ID  
with you**

# Buildings – Ohio Statehouse & Riffe Center

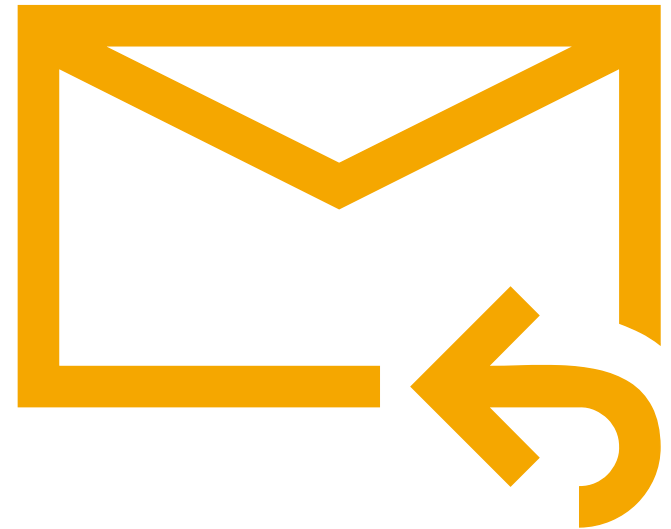
- Morning speaking event is in the Ohio Statehouse - **Atrium**
- Senate Offices are in the Ohio Statehouse
- State Representatives are in the Riffe Center
  - Riffe Center requires check in at a front desk with a photo ID
  - You also need to tell them what floor(s) you are going to – which will be in your materials





# Reminders

- If you have an accommodations request, request it ASAP through your registration. If you have already registered, please email [publicpolicy@oaesv.org](mailto:publicpolicy@oaesv.org) with the subject "Advocacy Day Accommodations Request".
- You should have received a confirmation email with registration outlining parking options & other information. Check your [Spam/Junk/Other](#) folders if you haven't received it.



# Reminders

- Dress business casual at minimum if planning to attend legislative meetings in the afternoon.
- Wear your Advocacy Day T-shirt (linked on event web page) or **teal colored clothing if you have it.**
- Consider choice of shoes & bringing other items with you for the day – there are coffee shops, vending machines, and other options in Capitol Square if you forget something you need.



# Legislative Meetings

# Meeting Schedule

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Your group meeting schedule will be sent to you via email by April 20th.

You will have the contact information of your group members.

# Normal Things to Expect



Your meeting schedule is subject to change



Brief meetings



Meetings with staff

# Meeting Template

Time	Lawmaker	Room/Floor	Thank You Note Recipients
11:10	Rep. Smith {link to bio here}	Floor 11	Aide John Jones, lawmaker may be late or not able to attend  Thank you note email: rep00@ohiohouse.gov
1:00	Rep. Robinson {link to bio here}	Floor 10	Rep. Robinson is scheduled to be there  Thank you note email: rep00@ohiohouse.gov

# Communicating with Lawmakers

# Prep Work – Know Your Lawmakers

- Consult Lawmaker Bios



Ohio Senate District 9  
Counties: Hamilton (part)

Senator Cecil Thomas was elected in November 2014 to serve Ohio's 9<sup>th</sup> Senate district, which includes parts of Cincinnati, St. Bernard, Elmwood Place, Norwood, Golf Manor, Hollydale, Columbia Township, Silverton and Springfield Township.

A product of a working class family, Senator Thomas was born in rural Alabama in 1952. At the age of eight, his family moved to Cincinnati settling into the West End community where he attended St. Anthony Catholic School. After graduating from Withrow High School, he took a job as a public service worker. However, with the desire to attend college he joined the Cincinnati Police Cadet Program, which offered free college tuition.

Activate Windows



# Prep for Groups

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Tips your group may find helpful:

- Designate roles
- Establish a plan
- Review any meeting notes that OAESV has provided to you



# Communication & Meeting Tips

- Keep an eye on the time
- Don't worry about being an 'expert' on the legislative details
- Embrace your expertise & the perspective you bring to the issues on OAESV's Advocacy Day Agenda

**Avoid bringing up other issues – that can be raised in a meeting outside of Advocacy Day!**

# Communication & Meeting Tips

- Questions from lawmakers may not align with the topic you are discussing
- Balance sharing information amongst your group mates – Be aware of the privilege and power you are bringing into a space and make space for others to share



# Effective Advocacy with Members

- Trust and mutual respect are key components of effective advocacy
- Your individual politics or values may not align with your elected official's – even if you disagree with a member, you want them to view you as a trusted source of information
- This is your opportunity to build a foundation for education

# Navigating Unknowns

If you are meeting with a lawmaker that may bring up other legislation, we will do our best to notify you of that ahead and/or prepare your group lead.

It is always acceptable to note down a question or request that you will need to follow up on:

***"That's a great question. I don't have that information, but we will make a note of it and follow up with your office."***



# Concluding Your Meetings



Check for questions



Express thanks for the meeting



If you discuss follow up information, reiterate that you will get back to them



Invite the legislator and/or staff to an upcoming event or to visit your program



Ask permission to take a photo AND share it social media

# **Advocacy Day Agenda – Legislation**

# 2024 Meeting Topics

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HB 161: Eliminate Spousal Rape Loophole



HB 89: Prohibit Intimate Exams on Unconscious Patients



HB 143: Expand Housing Protections for Survivors



# House Bill 161 – Spousal Rape Loophole

## **Title: Eliminate spousal exceptions for certain sex offenses**

- Sponsors: Representative Miranda, Representative Hillyer
- Status: Passed Ohio House; Currently in Ohio Senate on Judiciary Committee
- What will it do?
  - Remove the spousal rape loophole from certain sex offenses
  - Permit spousal testimony in a prosecution of certain sex offenses

# House Bill 89 – Prohibit Intimate Exams on Unconscious Patients

**Title: Regards intimate examination of anesthetized, unconscious patient**

- Sponsors: Representative Munira Abdullahi, Representative Hillyer
- Status: In Ohio House on Public Health Policy Committee
- What will it do?
  - Prohibit certain medical professionals and students from performing or authorizing another to perform intimate examinations on an anesthetized or unconscious patient
  - Intimate examination is defined as a rectal, prostate, or pelvic examination in the bill

# House Bill 143 – Housing Protections for Survivors

## Title: Enact the Ohio Safe Homes Act

- Sponsors: Representative Grim
- In Ohio House on House Criminal Justice Committee
- What will it do?
  - Protect survivors of domestic violence & sexual violence from "nuisance" related charges for service calls to law enforcement
  - Provide early lease termination avenue for survivors
  - Provide option for new lock/locks installation
  - Prohibit landlord from sharing address or identifying information

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# Framing the conversation

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- Brief introductions
- State your purpose: "We are here for OAESV's advocacy day to end sexual violence, and we would like to discuss HB 143, sponsored by Rep. Grim, with you."
- Ethical storytelling is encouraged
- Data can be shared as well
- Personalize the issues by talking about the needs you see in your local area



# Preparation

- What you can do TODAY:
  - Start looking for connections between the highlighted bills for this Advocacy Day and your own area of practice, lived experience, or other expertise.
  - Prepare short talking points for each topic that you wish to speak about on OAESV's Advocacy Day agenda.
  - Research the lawmakers from your district.

# Extra Support

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OAESV will provide prep materials & talking points via email and in-person

Visit event web page to access materials related to Advocacy Day

You will have group members & OAESV staff for support

# Post-Meeting Steps



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## Thank You Cards/Emails

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- OAESV will provide printed thank you cards at the event for completion & signature.
- Group lead or group members will return completed thank you cards to the Statehouse Atrium.



# Thank You Email

To Aide & Lawmaker Example:

To: [Sarah.Smith@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:Sarah.Smith@ohiohouse.gov); [rep00@ohiohouse.gov](mailto:rep00@ohiohouse.gov)

Subject: Sexual Violence Advocacy Day Meeting Thank You

Sarah and Rep. Jones,

Thank you for taking the time to meet with me on April 30th to discuss the importance of HB 161 in the Senate to end the spousal rape loophole. We appreciate your time and energy supporting sexual violence survivors.

Best,  
Your Name

# Social Media

## Post on Social Media

- Photo of you wearing your Advocacy Day apparel / Teal
- **Photo with lawmaker & meeting group (you can tag them too!)**
- Tag OAESV on X, Facebook, Instagram!
- Support for specific issues (HB 161, HB 89, HB 143)
- Photos of speakers at our program and thank you's for their support
  
- Hashtags:
  - #embraceyourvoice
  - #thetimeisnow
  - #tellyourstory

# Post-Event

# Post-Event Survey



Respond to Electronic Survey in Post-Event Email



Include any follow up requests from your meetings in this survey

# Questions

# Questions & Contact Information

- Email Emily with public policy related questions: [publicpolicy@oaesv.org](mailto:publicpolicy@oaesv.org)
- For accommodations & event information (parking, location information, etc.), contact our team at [info@oaesv.org](mailto:info@oaesv.org)