

CHAPTER LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Bad laws are the worst sort of tyranny.
-Edmund Burke

CHAPTER KEY RESPONSIBILITIES:

- **Hold regular meetings**
- **Review school board agendas**
- **Attend school board meetings**

Beyond these priorities, a Chapter has the autonomy to set their focus. If the Chapter chooses to get involved in education and parental rights legislation, please use this resource as a guide.

A *Chapter Legislative Committee* is formed at the direction of the Chapter Chair or Executive Board. Without one, the Chair is the liaison to any organized State Legislative Committee until he/she appoints a replacement. Chapter Chairs have many responsibilities; it is recommended that they find someone to serve in their stead on the state committee. This is normally the Chair of the Chapter Legislative Committee.

The purpose(s) of this committee are generally to:

- Facilitate and build relationships with legislators in the Chapter's geographical area
- Maintain a list of contact information for local legislators and legislative contacts
- Propose quality legislation to local legislators for their consideration
- Meet with legislators to discuss legislation
- Support quality, pro-parental rights legislation
- Share information with Chapter membership about legislation and the legislative process
- Assess state legislation that has been proposed
- Put together training for Chapter members on the legislative process in their state
- Represent the Chapter on the State Legislative Committee (Chair)
- Push out the State Legislative Committee's calls to action

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:

- **Meeting with Legislators**
- **Effective Calls to Action**

While a Chapter can do many things autonomously, it is important to note that official calls to action supporting or opposing filed legislation should **ONLY** be done under the approval of the State Legislative Committee. This includes posting on social media that your Chapter members should contact an elected official so they will support specific legislation.

The Chapter may opt to have just a Legislative Chair who fulfills the function of the committee if not enough volunteers are available. An odd number of committee members is recommended for voting purposes.

While legislative sessions are generally briefly defined periods of time, the legislative committee can serve year-round. The committee can continue to meet with elected officials, work to find a sponsor for legislation, and rally supporters for bills that have already been filed.

Please remember: It is best to coordinate with another Chapter if your actions/meeting may impact them.

