



Midwives' Association of Washington State  
February 14, 2019

The 9 Steps of a LOBBY DAY Visit

1. BEFORE ENTERING your VISIT:

Look to see which district the Legislator you are going to see represents.

- Statewide map:

<http://leg.wa.gov/LIC/Documents/Maps/Statewide%20Legislative%20District%20Map.pdf>

2. INTRODUCE YOURSELF and let them know if you are a constituent or if your clients or colleagues live in their district. Find your legislator here: <http://app.leg.wa.gov/DistrictFinder/>

3. THANK the Representative for their support in the past.

- All of our recent bills have passed either unanimously or by a wide margin, so you can thank all House Reps and all Senators for something. There won't be time to thank them for everything, but you can be specific if something is important to you personally. Past support may include:
  - (2018) [HB2016](#) - Ensuring access to volunteer midwifery & doula services for incarcerated pregnant & laboring persons
  - (2017) Support for the HCA's recommendation to increase the Medicaid reimbursement rate for the Birth Center facility fee, support of our budget proviso & support of Paid Family & Medical Leave
  - (2015) Restoring funding for the Health Professional Loan Repayment and Scholarship Program. (Gov Budget)
  - (2014 & 2013) [HB 1773](#) had unanimous support in the Senate & nearly unanimous support in the House. Detail: <http://app.leg.wa.gov/far/RollCall?rollCallId=39926&bienId=22>
  - (2012) [HB 2186](#) (which allows LMs to collaborate with RNs) had unanimous support in the House & Senate.
  - (2011) [HB 1176](#)/SB [5071](#) (which gave LMs access to [HEAL-WA](#) and thus to a wealth of evidence via the UW health sciences library) had unanimous support in the House & Senate.
  - If they supported our budget proviso to cap our licensing fee in previous years (typically in Governor's Budget as a proviso).

4. TELL YOUR STORY (briefly): Have one person from your group give a personal example of why/how Licensed Midwifery is important to them or explain how it has impacted their life or let the representative explain to you how birth/midwifery has impacted their life.

5. SUMMARIZE OUR POSITION:

- See Talking Points

6. REFER Legislators to our Electronic Lobby Day Packet (E-Packet):

➤ [www.washingtonmidwives.org](http://www.washingtonmidwives.org)

7. **Don't forget THE ASK** (see page 2)



## LOBBY DAY VISIT PREPARATION (continued)

### 7. Don't forget THE ASK:

When meeting with Senators:

- Would you be willing to support our budget proviso? That would allow the cap on the midwifery licensing fee to be maintained at \$550/year.
- Will you support SB5256 to help preserve the birth center model of care and ensure that childbearing families in WA have consumer protection regarding the type of care they will receive at the facility where they choose to birth?

When meeting with House Members:

- Would you be willing to support our budget proviso? That would allow the cap on the midwifery licensing fee to be maintained at \$550/year.  
Should SB 5256 come over from the Senate, would you vote in favor?

### 8. AFTER THE VISIT:

- Record some notes about your visit on the provided forms; note who is supportive and who is not; include any requests for more information or follow-up.

### 9. FOLLOW-UP:

- Consider sending thank you cards or emails. Watch for any additional requested follow-up initiated by MAWS.
  
- Any further questions or concerns can be addressed by our Lobbyist, Amber Ulvenes [amber@ulvenesconsulting.com](mailto:amber@ulvenesconsulting.com) or MAWS President Neva Gerke [president@washingtontmidwives.org](mailto:president@washingtontmidwives.org)