

Sharing Your Story



Using the Hook, Line, and Sinker method is a great, brief way to keep your story/meeting focused and engaging the lawmaker!

- The “Hook” is your introduction to the meeting.
 - “Hello [Representative/Senator Name], my name is [name] and I am your constituent in [neighborhood/city]. I am here today to talk to you about [issue/bill number].”
 - Introducing yourself this way let’s them know your name and that you are a constituent of theirs. Legislators are more likely to listen to the needs of those they represent. Telling them what you are talking to them about right away sets the stage for the next part.



- The “Line” is where you share your story.
 - “This matter is important to me because [insert personal experience]. This has had an impact on our community by [insert community experience].”
 - Here is where you share why the issue is important to you and your community. This is the meat of your argument and **WHY** you are speaking with them. Keep it detailed yet brief. It is best to keep this around 2-4 minutes.



- The “Sinker” is your ask.
 - “Will you please support [bill name/number] or [policy on this issue]?”
 - This gives them an opportunity to actively support or oppose your legislative goals. It will tell you if they are supportive or hostile to your cause and can inform you of your next steps. This may be a follow-up meeting, or getting other constituents to email, write, and call to them to urge support.

