

## **SETTING UP A MEETING WITH YOUR LEGISLATOR**

- 1) Call your Legislator's Capitol office and ask to speak to their scheduler.
- 2) Let the scheduler know that you are a constituent and you will be in Austin on a specific day. Tell the staff you would like to meet with the Legislator about SB 433/HB 607. \*\*If this is a Legislative Day – need to schedule for the afternoon.
- 3) If legislator is not available, ask for an appointment with his/her Healthcare Aide. \*\*More than likely, this is who you are going to meet with.
- 4) Confirm date and time of meeting before ending the phone conversation. The schedulers are very busy, so it is best to double check that you both have the same information.

## **PREPARING FOR YOUR MEETING WITH YOUR LEGISLATOR**

### **Importance of Introduction**

- Where you are from/district
- Establish your credibility
- Constituency (what physical therapists do, numbers, etc.)

### **Legislation**

- Identify the Bill
  - Need
  - Major features of the Bill
  - Who the Bill impacts
- Personal Impact (individualizing)

### **Closing Questions**

- Will you vote for the bill?
- What can we do to help pass this bill?
- What other issues are pending in your area relative to health care?

### **Important Things to Keep in Mind During Your Visit**

- If you don't have an answer to their question, say "I don't know but I will have someone from the Association follow up with you with an answer."
- Never mislead or become negative. Legislators need to see the profession as "Professionals." Credibility is key.

### **Follow-Up**

- Letter or email saying thank you. Enclose another copy of the one pager or other additional information you may have discussed in the meeting.

- Contact the TPTA Chapter Office about any additional information that needs to be sent. \*\*Note: This needs to be done within a day or two of the visit.