


The background of the slide is a light gray gradient, decorated with several realistic water droplets of varying sizes. Some droplets are in the top left corner, others in the top right, and a cluster of larger ones is in the bottom right corner. The text is centered in the middle of the slide.

# **POLICY CHANGE THROUGH LEGISLATION**

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- The background of the slide is a light gray gradient. In the top-left and bottom-right corners, there are several realistic-looking water droplets of various sizes, some overlapping. The droplets have highlights and shadows, giving them a three-dimensional appearance.
- **LOBBYIST**
  - **EDUCATOR**
  - **CITIZEN ADVOCATE**
  - **CHANGE AGENT**
  - **PUBLIC POLICY ADVOCATE**

# **NORTH DAKOTA LAW**

## **A “FORMAL” LOBBYIST**

“ANY PERSON WHO, IN ANY MANNER WHATSOEVER, DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY, PERFORMS ANY OF THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES:

A) ATTEMPTS TO SECURE THE PASSAGE, AMENDMENT, OR DEFEAT OF ANY LEGISLATION BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OR THE APPROVAL OR VETO OF ANY LEGISLATION BY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE.

B) ATTEMPTS TO INFLUENCE DECISIONS MADE BY THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL OR BY AN INTERIM COMMITTEE OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.”

**A PRIVATE CITIZEN APPEARING ON HIS OWN BEHALF IS NOT A LOBBYIST (NDCC 54-05.1-01)**

# **THE ULTIMATE GOAL**

**... IS TO DEVELOP A LONG-TERM  
RELATIONSHIP WITH KEY POLICY-  
MAKERS.**

**... WHEN AN IMPORTANT DECISION IS  
TO BE MADE, THE POLICY-MAKERS  
COME TO YOU FOR ADVICE &  
COUNSEL.**

**TO MAKE THIS TO HAPPEN, IT IS IMPORTANT –**

...TO UNDERSTAND YOUR INDIVIDUAL STRENGTHS & LIMITATIONS

... TO CARRY OUT ONLY THOSE FUNCTIONS & ROLES FOR WHICH  
YOU ARE QUALIFIED.

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PEOPLE ARE DIFFERENT-

- SOME ARE EXPERTS ON FRAMING POLICY;
- SOME UNDERSTAND FIRST-HAND THE IMPACT OF POLICY ON PEOPLE;
- OTHERS UNDERSTAND THE POLITICS OF THE SITUATION.

YOU DO NOT HAVE TO PERFORM ALL ROLES TO MAKE A  
DIFFERENCE.

- **ADVOCATES CAN LOSE THEIR CREDIBILITY WHEN THEY TRY TO PERFORM ROLES THAT DO NOT MATCH THEIR EXPERIENCE AND CAPABILITIES.**

# **BE PREPARED TO “MAKE YOUR CASE”**

## **1. DO YOUR HOMEWORK:**

- **RESEARCH THE HISTORY OF YOUR ISSUE.**
- **BECOME KNOWLEDGEABLE ABOUT CURRENT POLICY (STRENGTHS AND INADEQUACIES).**
- **FIND RELEVANT DATA.**
- **PROVIDE EXAMPLES AND PERSONAL STORIES.**



## 2. KNOW WHAT YOU WANT

- BE ABLE TO DEFINE & ARTICULATE WHAT THE PROBLEM IS ALONG WITH A PROPOSED SOLUTION.

## 3. SEEK & CULTIVATE ALLIES

## 4. KNOW THE OPPOSING VIEWS & HOW TO COUNTER THEM

## 5. KNOW WHEN TO COMPROMISE (BOTTOM LINE)





I THINK YOU NEED TO  
BE MORE FOCUSED



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# **THE STATE LEGISLATURE**

**BILL SPONSORS – WHO SUPPORTS YOUR  
ISSUE AND ALSO HAS SOME “CLOUT”?**

**PROVIDE SOLID INFORMATION SO  
SPONSORS CAN “SELL” THE BILL TO  
OTHERS (FACT SHEETS?); INCLUDE  
OPPOSING VIEWS & HOW TO COUNTER  
THEM**



ORGANIZE INDIVIDUALS FROM AROUND THE STATE  
TO SUPPORT THE BILL

FOR LEGISLATIVE HEARINGS, TESTIMONY SHOULD  
VARY – EACH SHOULD PROVIDE A DIFFERENT OR  
PERSONAL PERSPECTIVE BUT STILL BE ON POINT

THE BILL MAY NOT BE DISCUSSED OR VOTED ON AT  
THE TIME OF THE HEARING – STAY TUNED IN...  
(MAKE FRIENDS WITH THE COMMITTEE CLERK)

CONFERENCE COMMITTEES CAN BE KEY!

DON'T FORGET THE GOVERNOR



# STATE LEGISLATORS – YOUR DISTRICT

- GET PERSONALLY ACQUAINTED WITH YOUR DISTRICT SENATOR AND REPRESENTATIVES – LET THEM KNOW YOUR PRIORITY AREA(S) OF INTEREST
- PROVIDE BILL #'S FOR SPECIFIC ISSUES
- WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS SHOULD BE ORIGINAL – TEMPLATES ARE NOT VERY EFFECTIVE
- VISITS (ELEVATOR SPEECH VS. SIT-DOWN MEETING), PHONE CALLS, FAXES, AND E-MAILS
- COMMUNICATIONS MUST BE TIMELY

## FOLLOW UP

# AT THE NATIONAL LEVEL...

- COMMUNICATION BY PHONE, E-MAIL, FAX, LETTER
- MEETINGS:
  - CHIT CHAT A BIT BUT DON'T GET SIDETRACKED
  - IF MORE THAN ONE PERSON – COORDINATE AHEAD
  - EXPLAIN YOUR SUBJECT; LIMIT AGENDA ITEMS
  - PROVIDE ORGANIZED, FACTUAL WRITTEN INFORMATION
  - TELL PERSONAL STORIES
  - ASK THE POLICYMAKER FOR HIS/HER POSITION
  - SUMMARIZE WITH A FEW KEY POINTS

## **OFFER TO PROVIDE MORE INFORMATION**

- FOLLOW-UP IS IMPORTANT

# SOMETIMES IT MEANS REACTING...

- LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY ISN'T JUST PROACTIVE
- HAVE RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO REACT
- RESEARCH
  - ✓ FACTS
  - ✓ ALLIES
  - ✓ OPPOSITION
- ORGANIZE GRASS ROOTS EFFORTS
- TOWN HALL MEETINGS
- SOCIAL MEDIA
- ACTION ALERTS
- MEDIA COVERAGE
- COMMUNICATE

HAVE SOMEONE ON THE “FRONT LINES”

# N.D. LEGISLATIVE WORKING COMMITTEES

- P&A'S WEBSITE WILL HAVE CONTACT INFORMATION:

[www.ndpanda.org](http://www.ndpanda.org)

- STATEWIDE GROUP MEETS WEEKLY DURING THE SESSION (FRIDAY AFTERNOON) VIA INTERACTIVE VIDEO NETWORK
- DISCUSSION ON DISABILITY-RELATED BILLS; REVIEW OF WHAT HAPPENED AT HEARINGS; SHARING INFORMATION
- MENTORS AVAILABLE TO HELP WITH TESTIMONY & LETTERS



# TRACKING DISABILITY-RELATED LEGISLATION

- P&A E-MAILS INFORMATION AT LEAST ONCE EACH WEEK DURING THE SESSION
- “GRID” INCLUDES BILL #'S, SHORT DESCRIPTION, ASSIGNED COMMITTEE, HEARING DAY/TIME, COMMITTEE ACTION, FLOOR ACTION
- LINKS TO BILLS, AMENDMENTS, ENGROSSED BILLS, & FISCAL NOTES
- DEPT. OF HUMAN SERVICES BUDGET INFORMATION; SUMMARIES OF COMMITTEE DISCUSSION & ACTION
- E-MAIL [tlarsen@nd.gov](mailto:tlarsen@nd.gov) TO SIGN UP



## 2013 DISABILITIES-RELATED LEGISLATION

2.22.13

BILL	DESCRIPTION	HOUSE COMM.	HOUSE HEARING	COMM. ACTION	HOUSE ACTION	SENATE COMM.	SENATE HEARING	COMM. ACTION	SENATE ACTION
<a href="#">HB 1023</a>	Commission for Legal Counsel on Indigents \$	Approp.	1/12 8:30	Do pass 20-0	PASSED 89-3	Approp.	3/2 3:30		
<a href="#">HB 1032 FN</a>	MH & SA services pilot voucher payment program	Human Services	1/10 11:00	Do NOT pass 11-2	<b>FAILED 16-74</b>				
<a href="#">HB 1073 amend engrossed</a>	Spec. Educ. - related services: insurance options/school responsibility; MR to ID language change	Educ.	1/10 11:00	Do pass w/ amend 15-0	PASSED 93-0	Educ.			
<a href="#">HB 1110 amend engrossed</a>	Petitions for continuing treatment orders	Human Services	1/10 10:00	Do pass w/ amend 12-1	PASSED 90-1	Human Services			
<a href="#">HB 1147</a>	School district bullying policies	Educ.	1/24 10:30	Do not pass 12-3	<b>FAILED 15-78</b>				
<a href="#">HB 1211 amend engrossed</a>	Relating to home education	Educ.	2/1 9:30	Do Pass w/ amend 12-3	PASSED 75-19				
<a href="#">HCR 3038</a>	Study transportation funding options	Transp.	2/17 9:00	Do pass 14-0	ADOPTED	Transp.			



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# TERESA LARSEN PROTECTION & ADVOCACY PROJECT

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