Do's and Don’t's of Citizen Lobbying

Do:
- Make an appointment
- Dress neatly
- Introduce yourself
- Stick to the subject at hand
- If you don't know something, say so
- Be honest
- Know something about the official
- Be cordial to the assistant
- Be on time - but be prepared to wait
- Know the number/name of the bill and something about it
- Call or write in a summary of the meeting afterwards
- Thank the public official for the meeting
- Enjoy your visit - you are one of the few people making change!

Don’t:
- Be angry
- Be hostile (I'm a taxpayer!)
- Threaten (You'll pay for this at the polls!)
- Be afraid to be assertive
- Have a lot of material (it will never be read)
- Lose credibility (it will affect everyone who lobbies on the same subject after you)

Points to Know:
- Most public officials are happy when their constituents visit - they'll be friendly
- Public officials want people to like them
- You pay their salary, they work for you
- Cultivate a good rapport with the assistant and staff - they can be very helpful

Notes:______________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________
_____________________________________________________________________________________