Hook, Line, and Sinker



The hook, line and sinker strategy will help ensure you cover key messages and conduct an effective and successful meeting with your lawmaker.

Hook: Who You Are

Tell them who you are. Remember, you are a voter, a survivor/caregiver/advocate and their constituent. Make sure everyone in the group introduces themselves.

Be careful. A little small talk is acceptable but stay on message and don't be drawn into storytelling off topic – you'll never know where the time went!

State why you are here by introducing the ask/s.

Line: Share your stories and statistics.

Be informative, be thorough and be concise. Provide your lawmaker with personal stories. They'll appreciate real-life examples that put a human face on the issue. Discuss how the legislation will directly affect you, your friends and your family. Personal stories truly make an impact and achieve results.

Sinker: The Request

Ask your legislator their position on the issue. Be polite, direct and specific. Wait for their response. It is important to get a clear answer to provide on your report back form.

Answer any questions to the best of your ability. If you don't know the answer, it's OK to say "that's a good question, I'm not positive on the answer, and I'll need to get back to you." Don't answer any questions you're not 100% sure you know the answer to – make sure to list them on your report back forms. This is an excellent opportunity for staff to follow-up with the lawmaker after our day!

Leave on a positive note. As you wrap up the conversation, repeat one last time what action you hope the lawmaker will support. Make sure your lawmaker and/or their staff member receives a copy of the leave-behind materials. Thank them for their time and offer to be an ongoing resource.

Hook, Line, and Sinker, Continued



Hook

Who you are, where you're from -- Leader introduces the rest of the group. "We are here to today to ask for..."

Line
What is the problem we are trying to solve?
What is the proposed policy solution?
What is a data point to back up that solution?
Share your cancer connection and how it relates to the ask.
Add your personal story:
Why are you passionate about the fight against cancer?
How can you find a connection to the days asks?
Sinker
"In conclusion"
We're asking
Will you support [State Issue] to help cancer patients by

Don't forget the "thank you"!

The appreciation goes a long way

Feel free to ask for a selfie AFTER your meeting