

# Welcome to Delaware Advocacy Day



Dear Delaware Advocates,

Thank you for your willingness to participate in our 2026 Delaware Advocacy Day.

As a leading health advocacy organization, we work every day to encourage elected officials to make cancer a top priority. We support evidence-based solutions designed to eliminate major health problems. And together, we bring together ordinary people with extraordinary power to fight cancer with the training and tools they need to make their voices heard.

We want our Advocacy Day to be an opportunity for all of our volunteers to come together, unite our voices, and ask our elected officials to actively support the fight against cancer. We hope you will find our event energizing, exciting, and personally rewarding.

Included in this packet and your folder are all the resources you will need to advocate successfully with your lawmakers. We truly appreciate your commitment to advocacy and look forward to the great accomplishments we'll achieve together.

Thank you for all you do to help us fight cancer.

Keep fighting!

***Let's get started!***

# Agenda: Timeline of Events



**10:00 AM** Advocate Arrival  
Check-In, Snacks, and Networking  
*Location: Senate Hearing Room, Delaware Legislative Hall*

## Legislative Review and Training

- Welcome and Event Purpose —
  - Lance, Kilpatrick American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network (ACS CAN)
  - Sean Dwyer, Delaware Director of State Government Affairs at the Alzheimer's Association.

Policy briefing, meeting training, Q&A session

**12:00 PM** Legislative Meetings

- Individual and group meetings with legislators
- Complete report back forms

**2:00 PM** Group Photo and Lunch  
*Location: Legislative Hall Cafeteria*

**2:30 PM** Event Close

# Walking Maps and Building Information



**Attire:** Business casual- Wear your **purple** if you're with ALZ and **blue** if you're with ACS CAN!

**What to bring:** Nothing! We provide all materials and training the day of. We are also doing our best to ensure your legislative meetings are set up ahead of time, however as things can change very quickly in the Hall, be prepared to shift and accommodate legislator's busy schedules.

## Who to Contact with Questions

If you have any questions or need assistance, please reach out to:

Lance Kilpatrick, ACS CAN Government Relations Director

Phone: 202-321-5457

Email: lance.kilpatrick@cancer.org

Sean Dwyer, ALZ Delaware Director of Government Affairs

Phone: 302-388-8576

Email: stdwyer@alz.org

## Parking Information

Parking is available in the Delaware Public Archives, the Tatnall Building, and the Delaware Federal Credit Union lots. Handicapped parking and handicapped access are located on the east side of the building.

## Entering Legislative Hall

- Visitors should use the west entrance, which faces Legislative Avenue, during session days.
- For handicapped access, use the east entrance and ring the doorbell to be admitted.

## Security Procedures

- All visitors must present a government-issued photo ID (such as a driver's license).
- Security officers will search all bags and personal belongings.
- Temporary visitor badges will be issued and must be worn visibly at all times.

It is recommended that you leave large personal items such as backpacks or oversized purses in your vehicle.

# Social Media



## Delaware ACS CAN:

- X: @ACSCANDE
- Instagram: @acscande
- Facebook: American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network Delaware

## Delaware Alzheimer's Association

- X: @alzassociation and @alzdeval
- Instagram: @alzassociation and @alzdeval
- Facebook: Alzheimer's Association Delaware Valley Chapter

## Delaware American Lung Association

- X: @LungAssociation
- Instagram: @lungmidatlantic
- Facebook: American Lung Association in Delaware

## During the Event

- Don't forget to post about what's happening in real time!
- Use hashtag in every post.
- Post updates, pictures, and tag lawmakers who volunteers are visiting.
- Tell lawmakers and their staff about our hashtag and handle and encourage them to use it.
- Thank lawmakers for meeting with us in a post and tag them in it. If possible, include a photo with the lawmaker for better engagement.
- Post an accompanying action alert for your campaign on your social media channels.

## After the Event

- Post pictures of lawmaker meetings and tag their handles. Remember to mention the legislation or campaign discussed and include the event hashtag.
- Share engage with other volunteers posts. Like, share, and comment.
- Share ACS CAN Delaware posts on social media

# 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.

# Lawmaker Meeting: Do & Don't



## Do:

- Look and act professional
- Introduce yourself and tell the legislator where you are from
- Stay on message
- Be prepared to wait
- Know the asks and something about it
- Be efficient and articulate; the meeting should be brief and concise
- Ask for your legislator's support for the issue
- Stop discussing the issue if you get a "Yes"
- Leave a one-pager about the issue
- Turn off your cell phone
- Thank the lawmaker (be sure to also send a thank-you note)

## Don't:

- Attempt to answer questions you don't know the answer to or commit to anything you aren't certain of
- Get angry or hostile
- Get distracted by small talk
- Mention your political affiliation
- Leave behind materials that aren't provided in this packet
- Lobby on other issues
- Get defensive if an elected official doesn't support our legislation

# Senate Banking, Business & Insurance



**Spiros Mantzavinos**  
Committee Chair  
District 7: Elsmere, Greenbank,  
Marshallton, the Lancaster  
Pike/Newport Gap Pike areas  
302-744-4133



**Ray Seigfried**  
Committee Vice Chair  
District 5: Spans from  
Claymont to Talleyville,  
including parts of  
Brandywine Hundred  
and the Ardens.  
302-744-4137



**Trey Paradee**  
Committee Vice Chair  
District 17: City of Dover and the towns  
of Camden and Wyoming  
302-744-4162



**Brian G. Pettyjohn**  
Committee Member,  
Senate Minority Whip  
District 19: City of Dover  
and the towns of  
Camden and Wyoming  
302-744-4163



**Darius J. Brown**  
Committee Member  
District 2: New Castle, Wilmington and  
Edgemoor  
302-744-4286



**Bryant L. Richardson**  
Committee Member  
District 21: Seaford, Laurel,  
Delmar, Bethel,  
Gumboro, and Reliance  
302-744-4162



**John "Jack" Walsh**  
Committee Member  
District 9: City of Dover and the towns  
of Camden and Wyoming  
302-744-4163



**Nicole Poore**  
Committee Member  
District 12: Most of New Castle and Bear, all of  
Delaware City and Port Penn, and communities south  
of the Chesapeake & Delaware Canal, including  
Whitehal and Bayberry  
302-744-4164

# House Economic Development Banking Insurance & Commerce Committee



**William Bush**  
Committee Chair  
District 29: Communities between  
Smyrna and Dover



**Claire Snyder-Hall**  
Committee Member  
District 14: Rehoboth  
Beach, Dewey Beach,  
and the southern part of  
Lewes in Coastal Sussex.



**William J. Carson**  
Committee Vice Chair  
District 17: Portions of Smyrna,  
Leipsic, Little Creek, and Dover



**Madinah Wilson-Anton**  
Committee Member  
District 26: Newark and  
Bear



**Krista Griffith**  
Committee Member  
District 12: Neighborhoods in  
Wilmington, North Wilmington,  
Greenville, and Hockessin



**Ronald E. Gray**  
Committee Member  
District 38: Bethany  
Beach, Fenwick Island,  
Selbyville, and Ocean  
View.



**Alona Berry**  
Committee Member  
District 20: Milton, a portion of Lewes



**Larry Lambert**  
Committee Member  
District 7: Claymont



**Melanie Ross Levin**  
Committee Member  
District 10: Covers a far north section  
of Delaware bordering Pennsylvania.  
From Concord Pike in the west, the  
district extends east to Arden

# House Economic Development Banking Insurance & Commerce Committee (cont.)



**Kevin S. Hensley**

Committee Member

District 9: Odessa, Townsend, and Port Penn



**Daniel B. Short**

Committee Member

District 39: Based in Seaford and also includes the mostly rural areas surrounding the city. The district extends west to the border with Maryland.



**Bryan W. Shupe**

Committee Member

District 36: Coastal region of Sussex County. Towns in the 36th include Milford, Lincoln, Ellendale, Cedar Neck, Broadkill Beach, Slaughter Beach, and bits of Milton



**Michael F. Smith**

Committee Member

District 22: Pike Creek Valley and parts of Hockessin and Newark.



**Lyndon D. Yearick**

Committee Member

District 34: Meadowbrook Acres, Burwood, Highland Acres

# Report back form



**HOW WAS YOUR  
LAWMAKER MEETING?**

## Report back and let us know how your meeting went

Your feedback helps our staff provide additional information to lawmakers and make strategic decisions in successful campaigns. Share with us what you heard from your lawmaker during your recent visit.

**Remember:** One report back form should be completed for each lawmaker meeting

Scan the QR code or visit:  
[www.fightcancer.org/reportback](http://www.fightcancer.org/reportback)

