



Legislative Committee

2026 Committee Talking Points

General Goals

- Increasing our presence with legislators
- Gaining respect and recognition as election administrators
- Understanding the dynamics of the General Assembly
- Advocating for legislation that VEBA supports in the name of operational improvements

Legislative Etiquette

- Speak for yourself
- Be mindful of General Assembly dynamics and our commitment to non-partisanship as we direct free and fair elections.

Preparation

- Learn what you can about your representatives. Legislators' biographies can be found at [Virginia General Assembly | Your Portal to the Commonwealth's State Legislature](#)
- Study committee assignments (using [lis.virginia.gov](#)) with a special emphasis on learning about the members who serve on Privileges and Elections.
- Look up legislation your legislators have sponsored.
- Know the name of their legislative aide/staff.
- Look at their social media (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, LinkedIn)
- Be sure to sign up for any email updates list that will keep you informed.

Some Conversation Starters

- Thank them for meeting with you, acknowledge how valuable their time is, and express your appreciation for them taking a few minutes for you.
- Connect yourself to them and to your community. Mention your position/tenure on your Electoral Board.
- Explain any challenges as personal experience and include mentioning VEBA's desire to negotiate solutions that fit statewide.
- Ask them about their key priorities for this session, especially as it relates to elections.

Engaging Legislators

- Manners, style and attitude are important. Understand your environment.
- Know them before you need them. Introduce yourself and build trust.
- Be the humble expert.
- Engage early.
- Follow up with a thank you note or email.
- Respect and nurture your relationship with them. Remember they are all human. Manners, style and attitude are important.