

## Effective Grassroots Lobbying: How to Approach your Legislators

- The following sections are intended to provide simple but effective guidelines on how to influence elected officials who represent you and your patients with disabilities.
- Whether by letter or in person, your goal is to always provide reliable, honest information based on personal experience and knowledge as a dental professional and an advocate.
- You should provide legislators and their staff with written information that will help them arrive at a logical and responsible decision that will be in keeping with the outcome you are seeking. The more they hear from you and others, the more their awareness level on that subject increases, and the greater is your opportunity to prevail.
- Remember, like all of us, legislators have a learning curve. It is our job to help an elected official become more educated and more comfortable with an issue that is vital to you, but also to their constituents. They need and want your help in telling them how legislation would affect people in their district.