



Taking a Legislator on a Jobsite Tour

One way to make legislators gain a better understanding of the problems subcontractors face is to show them. A jobsite tour is extremely effective in illustrating these problems.

To facilitate such a visit, take the following steps:

- Coordinate with other subcontractors who may be interested in participating, to arrange several jobsite visits for a legislator, especially with those subcontractors who reside in the district of the legislator you intend to invite.
- Contact the legislator's scheduler to get an idea of when the legislator will be in the area and available. Request one of these dates for the tour.
- Before the actual tour, send the legislator your position on the issue that you will want to discuss.
- Invite the staff person who handles the appropriate issue for the legislator. If the legislator has such a staff person, he or she will do the bulk of the research on the issue.
- Offer to pick the legislator up on the designated date and take him/her to no more than three jobsites.
- If your state's ethics laws permit it, end the day with a lunch or dinner. If like federal legislators your state legislator is not allowed to accept a meal, request a meeting at the legislator's office. Invite other subcontractors who were involved in the jobsite visit, as well as the legislator's staff person. Discuss the issues raised during the tour and possible solutions to the problem.
- At this meeting:
 - Ask the legislator to support/oppose the legislation or issue, or to support any forthcoming legislative initiatives beneficial to subcontractors.
 - Explain why the legislation would impact subcontractors and give anecdotal information to help illustrate your point.
- Follow up with the legislator to thank him/her, as well as the appropriate staff person, for their time and reiterate your position on the issue at hand.

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