

How to Organize a Call-in for the Week of Action

Phone calls are an impactful way to influence legislators. Calling your member of Congress's office is easy to do and only takes a few minutes. Congressional offices receive many calls from constituents every day. Every call is tallied by the office, and they use the volume of calls on a certain issue to gauge what's most important to their constituents. Typically, the issues with the greatest number of calls are the ones that get the most attention from the member of Congress.

You can make a phone call on your own or increase your impact by organizing a call-in. A call-in is when a group of advocates gather to make phone calls to their elected official's office, back to back, about the same issue. This is an effective way to get the attention of lawmakers! It's similar to a legislator receiving a similar number of postcards or handwritten letters about the same issue, but phone calls typically carry more weight.

To start, look up the phone number of your congressional representatives at www.house.gov and www.senate.gov.

Check out this [video](#) about calling your legislator to prep yourself and your fellow advocates!

Tips on Calling your Member of Congress:

- **Your legislator will not be the one to take your call so you don't have to be nervous!** A staffer will answer the call and take down your message to tally with other constituent calls they receive that day.
- **You don't have to be an expert.** Don't feel that you have to memorize facts and figures before your call. It's more important to express that you are a constituent who is passionate about helping kids.
- **State that you are a constituent.** When you call, tell the staffer who answers that you are a constituent. If you want, you can give them your address so that they can mail you a written response.
- **If you have a story, share it!** Personal stories go a long way to illustrating the problem.
- **Be brief.** The staffer who answers the phone receives many calls every day. Simply let them know why you are calling and that you are a constituent.

For the week of action, we are making phone calls in support of House Resolution 277, which affirms the importance of access to safe, quality education for children in conflict zones. Check [here](#) to see if your member of Congress has cosponsored the resolution.

Sample Call Script:

Hi. My name is [_____] and I live in [city, state].

If the legislator has already cosponsored the resolution:

I'm calling to thank [legislator] for cosponsoring House Resolution 277, which affirms the importance of access to safe, quality education for children in conflict zones. We appreciate your office's support of the nearly 1 in 5 children around the world living in a conflict zone. Thank you.

If the legislation has not yet cosponsored the legislation:

I'm calling to ask [legislator] to cosponsor House Resolution 277, affirming the importance of access to safe, quality education for children in conflict zones. Nearly 1 in 5 children around the world live in war and conflict zones.

Children deserve to learn and grow in a safe learning environment. This resolution would support policies and programs to maintain safe schools even during times of war. Thank you.