

Meeting with Congress

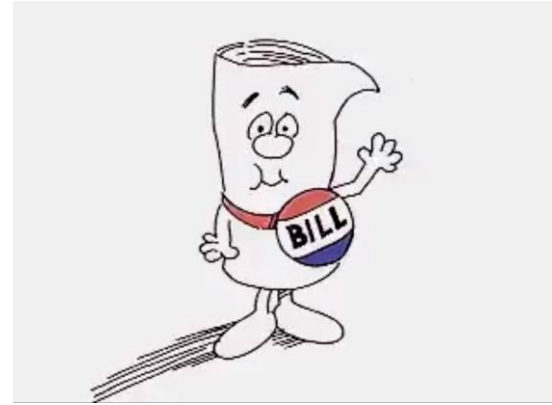
or why I should have gone to medical school like my
mother wanted

Nancy Blaney

Director, Government Affairs

Animal Welfare Institute

How a Bill Becomes Law



Seriously, How A Bill *Really* Becomes Law





Our fantasy about how meetings go

“We’re all agreed then?
Great!”



Sounds like a great idea.
We’ll do it!”

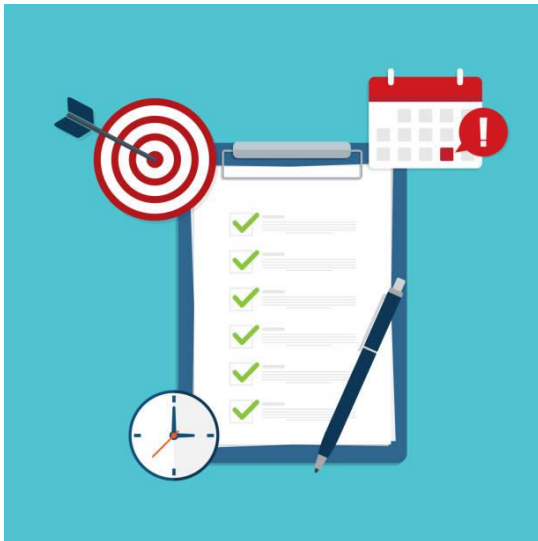


How we might actually feel after the meeting



Your plans for the meeting

Some days go like this...



...and some days go like this



Not all meetings go according to plan, but it's still nice to have one

- ❖ Names of all staff
- ❖ If you are a constituent, or have family who are constituents, make sure they know that
- ❖ If possible, find something to establish a connection either with the Member or the staff (Went to same high school?) (You visited the district on vacation?)
- ❖ Is there something the Member did or supported that relates to your issue?
- ❖ Steer clear of anything that sounds partisan or is a social hot button
- ❖ Breaking the ice is nice but also be respectful of their time and be ready to make your case
- ❖ Even in these days of electronic everything, have something to leave behind
- ❖ Follow up with a thank you and any additional information you promised.