



## District Meetings

Even though a number of ANAC members descend on Sacramento during the year to lobby on ANAC's key issues, it is essential for members to attend in-district meetings when their Assemblymembers/Senators are in their district office. Scheduling meetings with your legislative representatives in your home district is the best way to make an impact on nursing issues.

### Steps to ensure an effective meeting:

- Send a letter or e-mail requesting a meeting. Most members of your legislator can be reached in their district office over recess and many are available on Fridays.
- Promptly follow-up your letter or e-mail with a telephone call to the member's district office. Ask to speak with the member's scheduler who handles district office appointments. You may be referred to the member's Sacramento office.
- Invite colleagues, friends and family to attend the meeting. Hearing the same message, individually and collectively from the nursing community makes this the best way to make an impact on a member's position on our issues. ANAC may also contact you to attend a meeting we organize, or one organized through one of our coalition partners.
- In advance of the meeting, the group should meet to strategize. A lead person should be designated to deliver the key message you want to leave with the member of Congress.
- Your discussion with the member of the legislator should be organized and focused on the principal issue you set up the meeting for. Ask directly for the member's help in supporting ANAC's position and try to get a clear sense of where the Member stands on the issues.
- Every participant should immediately write an individual thank-you note to the member of the legislature and any staff member present during the meeting. Be sure to express your appreciation to any of the member's staff who were involved in scheduling or facilitating the meeting.
- Please notify the office after you had a meeting. Please share your impression of the meeting and if the Legislator indicated support or opposition to our position.