

# Legislative Protocol

***Thank you for coming to the 2019 Legislative session.***

You are there representing your facility, the people who work for you and most importantly the patients for whom you provide care.

- SDAHO has a lobbyist, Tim Rave, who also serves as President/CEO. The association pays the lobbyist fee for his activities. While you may discuss SDAHO's point of view, you are really speaking as a private citizen of the state. Therefore, you do not have to pay a lobbying fee.
- As a citizen, it is your right to attend committee meetings of the Legislature. If you attend a committee meeting and wish to testify, you will be required to sign the log in the back of the room; as long as you testify representing yourself, you do not have to register as a lobbyist. If you wish to testify on behalf of your facility, you will need to register as a lobbyist. In nearly all cases, the committee will ask if there is any public testimony and at that time you will be allowed to present your view. In some cases, the committee divides the testimony into opponents and proponents. Then you need to wait until those, like you, who are speaking for or against a bill, are asked to speak.

**It is your right and normally the desire of your local legislators, to want to hear from you while they are in the halls or at meal/social functions. In fact, this is the best time to discuss an issue with them, one-on-one.**

- At the start of the floor session (in either chamber), everyone is asked to leave the House or Senate floor (unless you been invited by a legislator to be on the floor). You may sit and watch the session from the gallery on the fourth floor.
- One side of the hall around each chamber on the third floor has been closed off to all but legislators. Like the House or Senate floor, you should not enter this area without being invited by a legislator.