Creating and Implementing a Legislative Agenda

Monday, March 29, 2:00 PM – 3:30 PM

No call in number available.
Audio is ONLY available through your computer

CongressFoundation.org
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AARP</th>
<th>General Motors Corporation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aflac</td>
<td>International Paper</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alzheimer’s Association</td>
<td>KnowWho</td>
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<tr>
<td>American Council of Life Insurers</td>
<td>National Association of Counties</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CMS Energy</td>
<td>National Rural Letter Carriers’ Association</td>
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<tr>
<td>FMI-the Food Industry Association</td>
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Congressional Operations
• Training, consulting, research to support a functioning Congress
• 1,000 staff from 300 offices

Citizen Engagement
• Unique studies, trainings, and resources for citizen advocates
• Connected to 91,595 Americans
• Recognize Legislators and Staff
• Provide Examples to Colleagues
• Enhance Public Understanding
2021 NOMINATIONS OPEN NOW - DEADLINE EXTENDED TO MARCH 5!
Congresswoman Chrissy Houlahan wins Democracy Award for transparency and accountability

By Karen Shuey kshuey@readingeagle.com @KarenShueyRE on Twitter  Oct 6, 2020  0
• New Member Resource Center
  ▪ Google: “CMF New Member Resource Center”
• New Member Training Series
  ▪ December 2020 – June 2021
• Legislative Assistant Training
  ▪ Government Affairs Institute at Georgetown University
• District/State-Based Guidance
  ▪ Keeping It Local
  ▪ Templates/Manuals/Forms
• Website Guidance
  ▪ Gold Mouse Awards for Best Website
Guidebooks for Freshman Offices

**Setting Course**

A Congressional Management Guide

**Being an Effective Lawmaker From Day One**

A joint venture between University of Virginia and Vanderbilt University
CMF’s Crisis Preparedness & Response Center

• Managing Issues Related to January 6th Attack
• Managing Congressional Staff Remotely
• WFH Guides
• Best Practices for Online and Telephone Town Halls
• Managing Stress in Constituents and Staff
Agenda

• Value of Planning
• Center for Effective Lawmaking (CEL)
• Veteran Congressional Office Staff Discuss Their Best Practices and Operations
• Q & A
Poll #1
“Remember the Vasa”
The Covey Matrix

- **URGENT**
  - QUADRANT I: Dealing with crisis or handling projects with deadlines
  - QUADRANT III: Interruptions, some calls, mail, meetings

- **NOT URGENT**
  - QUADRANT II: Planning, building relationships
  - QUADRANT IV: Busy work, some calls and mail
This is where legacies are built.

QUADRANT II
Planning, building relationships
“Mr. Gorbachev...Tear down this wall!”
“I have a dream.”
Frank R. Wolf
of Falls Church (10th Dist.)
Republican—1st term
“From his position on the transportation subcommittee of the House Appropriations Committee, Mr. Wolf was instrumental in rallying support and funding for renovations to Dulles and Reagan National airports, reconstruction of the Woodrow Wilson Bridge.”

“His unstinting advocacy for human rights and oppressed minorities in dangerous and unlovely corners of the world that most members of Congress were content to ignore.”
Presenters

Craig Volden
Co-Director – Center for Effective Lawmaking
University of Virginia
Frank Batten School of Leadership and Public Policy
Professor of Public Policy and Politics

Alan Wiseman
Co-Director – Center for Effective Lawmaking
Vanderbilt University
Chair, Department of Political Science
Cornelius Vanderbilt Professor of Political Economy
Professor of Political Science and Law (by courtesy)
• Partnership between University of Virginia and Vanderbilt University

• Vision

We envision a Congress comprised of effective lawmakers, strong institutional capacity, and the incentive structure needed to address America’s greatest public policy challenges.

• Mission

We advance the generation, communication, and use of new knowledge about the effectiveness of individual lawmakers and U.S. legislative institutions.
Today’s Topic

BEING AN EFFECTIVE LAWMAKER
FROM DAY ONE
Orientation Advice = Testable Hypotheses
Measuring Effectiveness

SUBSTANTIVE AND SIGNIFICANT

BILLS AIC ABC PASS LAW

commemoratives
Scores for Members of the 116th House

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Member</th>
<th>Score</th>
<th>State</th>
<th>District</th>
<th>Total Score</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lowey, Nita</td>
<td>3.386</td>
<td>NY</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>10.302</td>
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<tr>
<td>DeFazio, Peter</td>
<td>3.192</td>
<td>OR</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>5.265</td>
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<tr>
<td>Maloney, Carolyn</td>
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<td>NY</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>5.030</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pallone, Frank</td>
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<td>NJ</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>4.583</td>
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<tr>
<td>Takano, Mark</td>
<td>2.805</td>
<td>CA</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>4.514</td>
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**Define** your lawmaking agenda

- District interests are crucial
- Expertise from prior experiences as starting point
- Focus agenda on your top priorities
- Integrate committee assignment with agenda
- Never give up
- Excitement and passion help
District interests are crucial

![Graph showing estimated LES versus vote share in previous election.](image-url)
District interests are crucial
Expertise from prior experiences
Focus agenda on top priorities
Focus agenda on top priorities
Integrate committee assignments with agenda
Never give up

Percent of Bills Advancing through Legislative Stages

- Action in Committee: 13.1% (House), 22.1% (Senate)
- Passing Home Chamber: 8.7% (House), 9.2% (Senate)
- Becoming Law: 4.1% (House), 4.1% (Senate)
Excitement and passion help
How to Define Your Lawmaking Agenda

Passion & Expertise

Constituent Interests

Committee Jurisdiction

Aligned for Success!
• For more on the CEL: www.thelawmakers.org

• Set up “Office Hours”: thelawmakers@virginia.edu
Andy Flick
Chief of Staff
Rep. David Trone (D-MD)

Josh Jackson
Deputy Chief of Staff/Legislative Director
Rep. Adrian Smith (R-NE)
Upcoming Programs

Stay tuned for our April program, when we tackle the most common headaches faced by freshmen offices
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