

Elected officials are in office to represent you.

Which means you can, and should, let them know what's important to you.

Through this quick guide, we hope to help you feel confident contacting your representatives about the needs of Independent Theater. If you have any questions, please reach out to us directly: <a href="mailto:info@litny.org">info@litny.org</a>.

## Who am I contacting?

The best representatives for you to contact directly are those who directly represent you. It's always fine to reach out to other reps who are working on a particular issue, but representatives are always more receptive to messages from their constituents.

Find your representatives here: <a href="http://www.mygovnyc.org/">http://www.mygovnyc.org/</a>
Find contact info for the majority of NYC-area elected officials in our handy Google spreadsheet

When LIT has specific calls to action, we'll do our best to let you know which level of government you should be reaching out to.

## What am I saying?

Speak your mind! Some helpful hints:

- Be respectful goes without saying, of course, but remember that they're more likely to respond to facts and persuasive arguments, rather than fury & vitriol
- Be clear about what you want (e.g. "Our community needs this specific action, "
  or, "I'm writing to ask you to support this particular piece of legislation.")
- Explain, briefly, why you want them to take up your call to action (e.g. "Without rent forgiveness, independent theaters will close. We need your help to save our community's spaces.")
- Leave your name, and contact info
- Always say "Thank You!"

If you need help, <u>feel free to reach out to LIT directly</u>. We're happy to help you craft your message.