

2026 Update

To Do List for Advocacy Day.

Advocacy Day Sign Up

- 1) Register for Advocacy Day. (link in our events calendar coming soon)
- 2) Invite your branch members to join you on January 26th, AAUW Advocacy Day to hear from our Legislative Consultant Nancy Sapiro and feature speakers on Advocacy Day topics.
 - a. Ask them to register early to be sure and get the support documents.
- 3) Sign up for "This Week in Olympia" a weekly update from Nancy Sapiro our legislative consultant. Use this <u>link</u> (link also on our home page and public policy page)
- 4) Ask your branch members to sign up for This Week in Olympia.
 - a. It will include easy action alert links.

Setting Up Meetings with Legislators

- 1) What districts do your members live in? Some branches have members that live in only one district but some, like Seattle, have members in 4 more districts.
 - a) Here is a spreadsheet with branch partners and legislator contact info.
- 2) If you have more than one district, try to find a member from each district who would take the lead in meeting with their district legislators.
- 3) Check to see which other branch has members in your legislative districts and coordinate with their public policy chair for meetings. If your legislator(s) were in office last session check their Scorecard for 2025 bills to see how they voted on AAUW bills. You may find it helpful to refer to this information when you talk to them and to know where they stand issues. You can ask them why they vote for or against a bill as a friendly inquiry to try to get to know them and their priorities. See 2025 Issues Scorecard.
- 5) Contact information for your legislators:
 - a. Check the WA state webpage 2025 roster https://app.leg.wa.gov/Rosters/Members to find their most current legislative assistants name and email. This is your main contact person be very nice to them.
 - b. Check to see what bills your legislators are primary sponsors for that align with AAUW priorities and interests. Ask for the updated LIST. (publicpolicy@aauw-wa.org)
 - i. Their website will list the bills they sponsor. You can also search by their name <u>here</u>.
 - c. Check what committees your legislators are on and if they are the Chair or Vice Chair..
 - You can view the committee work sessions and hearings by searching <u>here</u> or go to main page and click on billings, meetings and sessions: https://leg.wa.gov/bills-meetings-and-session/
 - ii. Most legislators only know the details of the bills that come through their committees if there is a hearing on the bill or if someone nudges them to take a close look. You can be that nudge!
- 6) Send an email to your legislators letting them know **AAUW-WA Advocacy Day is January 26**th.
 - a. Ask to meet with them (in-person or virtually) to advocate for issues you care about as an AAUW member. Take any meeting time they offer! They are super busy and book up fast.
 - b. If you can't set up a meeting, let them know you will email their office with a list of bills AAUW is supporting and key talking points. See sample "save the date" email and sample "Bills AAUW supports" email. [these documents will be in our folder soon].
- 7) Follow-up periodically, for example, thank them for voting for a bill if they did, or for sponsoring



a new bill on AAUW's list or that you like.

- 8) Other good advocacy actions:
 - a. Sign up for their newsletter.
 - b. Go to one of their town hall meetings.
 - c. Invite them for coffee and conversation once the session is over.