



West Virginia **Breastfeeding Alliance**
for healthier moms & babies

Educating Policymakers and Advocating for

Policies that Support Breastfeeding

It is important that supporters and advocates work with policymakers to promote breastfeeding. Policymakers, including employers, state legislators or members of US Congress are usually very busy individuals. Advocates for a long list of issues want those policymakers to promote their issues. Remember, everyone with a policy agenda wants those key policymakers on their side.

Your State Legislators

It is best to contact your legislators when they are not in session. Their schedules should be less busy then, hopefully allowing time to talk with their constituents about issues. Request an appointment to meet with them to educate them about the importance of supporting breastfeeding. Use the following 5 key talking points provided by WVBA to provide them with accurate, current and consistent messages regarding breastfeeding in WV.

5 Quick Key Talking Points

- 1) Breastfeeding is important for increasing the health of moms and babies.
- 2) WV has the 4th lowest breastfeeding rate in the country.
- 3) Breastfeeding saves the state and families money.
- 4) WV is one of four states that do NOT have a law to protect breastfeeding in public.
- 5) When breastfeeding in public is supported, more moms will choose to nurse their babies. As breastfeeding increases public health is improved.

FIND YOUR LEGISLATORS HERE: <http://www.legis.state.wv.us/>

Enter your zip code and all of your WV legislators are provided, with contact information including phone numbers and active e-mail link. Additional information about breastfeeding is available at www.wvbfa.com.