Guidelines for Contacting Our Elected Representatives

These guidelines have been prepared to help you exercise your freedom and responsibility as a Christian citizen in this state. The first section provides some general considerations when communicating with elected officials, and can be easily adapted for use in writing Letters to the Editor of newspapers or other organizations.

The second section provides some selected prayer suggestions for our elected officials and for our nation.

The third section details the contact information for elected officials that represent us at both the national and state levels. In using this information, use whatever method of communication is the most comfortable for you. It can be either by written letter, e-mail, phone call, or Fax. The important thing is that your opinion (concern or encouragement) be provided to your representative, whatever way it is actually delivered to them.

If you find any inaccuracies in the following information, please call it to the attention of any member of the GBC Christian Citizenship Ministry or contact the GBC office.

General Guidelines when Communicating with Elected Officials

- The amount of influence we have can be dependent upon the means of communicating. Typically, the following are in order of impact:
  - Personal visit (highest impact)
  - Personal phone call
  - Personal letter (mail of Fax)
  - Personal e-mail
  - Form letter or petition (mail or Fax)
  - Form e-mail or electronic petition

- Write to the appropriate person
- Address the official properly (title, position, etc.) (1 Peter 2:17)
- Always be courteous (2 Tim 2:25)
- Be appropriate - you don’t have to show your Christian bias (may automatically be rejected), state concerns and what you want done
- Reference specific legislation by title or number if possible
• Be brief, make your point clear, be precise on what you are writing about, and don’t ramble (Matt 5:37)
• Typically, only tackle a single issue or topic per letter
• Keep to one page or less, multiple pages letters are easily ignored
• Be original (use your own words), don’t use a form letter approach
• Be legible (if it can’t be read, it won’t be)
• Be clear on what action (if any) you are requesting to be taken
• Be specific if you want a reply or not and by what time you want it
• Have others read your letter for content, tone, grammar & spelling
• Be sure to “cc” other appropriate persons or groups
• Keep a file copy of your letter, as well as any responses received
• Be patient in waiting for a response, send a follow-up letter after a grace period (reference the previous letter)
• Send another letter if you’re not satisfied with the response received
• Writer letters of encouragement also, particularly when pleased with something (Rom 13:7)
• Reminder: you can address spiritual issues separately (1 Tim 2:1-2)

Selected Prayer Suggestions for our Elected Officials and our Nation

Our elected leaders and their advisors (1 Tim 2:1-2)

• Pray for the salvation of all in authority over us
• Pray leaders will recognize their accountability to an almighty God
• Pray for our leaders and their families’ safety
• Pray they would use Biblical principles to guide all their decisions
• Pray they will be diligent in exercising their God-ordained duties
• Pray Christians would be diligent to encourage leaders to do good
• Give thanks for the believers who occupy high political offices
• Give thanks that we have a President who covets your prayers
• Give thanks for those upholding righteousness in the public arena
• Give thanks when evil is punished and the good is commended
• Give thanks for the many who diligently serve us and our land

Our State and Nation (Prov 14:34)

• Pray the Lord would raise up more godly leadership at all levels
• Pray righteous judges would be appointed everywhere
• Pray that righteous and just laws would be enacted and enforced
• Pray our nation’s decisions would be a godly testimony to the rest of the world
• Pray Christians will actively engage our society for God’s glory
• Pray abortion, sexual immorality & perversion would be eliminated from our land
• Give thanks for the many freedoms we enjoy in this country
• Give thanks for those who sacrifice so much to protect our freedoms (both in the military and in government)
• Give thanks we can openly worship and evangelize
• Give thanks we have freedom of conscience to exercise our beliefs
• Give thanks for the missionary heritage of this nation
• Give thanks our national Christian heritage still influences many
• Give thanks the Bible has the answers this state and nation need

Elected Officials Contact Information
California Example
(as of May 2004)

President
President George Bush 202-456-1414, 202-456-1111 president@whitehouse.gov
Mailing address: The White House, Washington D.C. 20500, Fax 202-456-2461

Local Congressional Representatives:
To view all California Congressional Representatives: http://clerk.house.gov/members/index.php

49th District - Darrell Issa (R) 760-940-4380 http://www.house.gov/issa/contact.htm
50th District - Randy "Duke" Cunningham (R) 760-737-8438 http://www.house.gov/cunningham/
51st District - Bob Filner (D) 619-422-5963 http://www.house.gov/writerep/ (only)
52nd District - Duncan Hunter (R) 619-579-3001 http://www.house.gov/writerep/ (only )
53rd District - Susan Davis (D) 619-280-5353 susan.davis@mail.house.gov

Mailing address for Representatives:
House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515; Switchboard: 202-224-3121

United States Senators

Dianne Feinstein (D) 619-231-9712 http://feinstein.senate.gov/email.html
Barbara Boxer (D) 619-239-3884 http://boxer.senate.gov/contact

Mailing address for Senators:
Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510; Switchboard: 202-224-3121

California Governor

Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger (R) State Capitol Office: 916-445-2841, Fax 916-445-4633
governor@governor.ca.gov
San Diego Office: 619-525-4641, Fax 619-525-4640, State Capitol Operator: 916-322-9900
Mailing address: State Capitol Building, Sacramento CA 95814
**California State Senators (San Diego Area)**

Find your California legislator by zip code at: [http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/yourleg.html](http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/yourleg.html)

First phone number is Sacramento office, second is local office

36th District - Dennis Hollingsworth (R)  
916-445-9781  909-699-1113  
[senator.hollingsworth@sen.ca.gov](mailto:senator.hollingsworth@sen.ca.gov)

37th District - Jim Battin (R)  
916-445-5581  760-568-0408  
[Jim.Battin@sen.ca.gov](mailto:Jim.Battin@sen.ca.gov)

38th District - Bill Morrow (R)  
916-445-3731  760-434-7930  
[http://republican.sen.ca.gov/web/38/feed.asp](http://republican.sen.ca.gov/web/38/feed.asp)

39th District - Dede Alpert (D)  
916-445-3952  619-645-3090  
[senator.alpert@sen.ca.gov](mailto:senator.alpert@sen.ca.gov)

40th District - Denise Moreno Ducheny (D)  
916-445-6767  
[http://democrats.sen.ca.gov/senator/ducheny/](http://democrats.sen.ca.gov/senator/ducheny/)

Mailing address for California State Senators:  
California State Senate, PO Box 942848, Sacramento CA 94248-0001

**California Assembly Members (San Diego Area)**

Find your CA legislator by zip code: [http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/yourleg.html](http://www.leginfo.ca.gov/yourleg.html)

First phone number is Sacramento office, second is local office

66th District - Ray Haynes (R)  
916-319-2066  909-699-1113  
[Assemblymember.Haynes@assembly.ca.gov](mailto:Assemblymember.Haynes@assembly.ca.gov)

73rd District - Patricia Bates (R)  
916-319-2073  760-757-8084  
[Assemblymember.Bates@assembly.ca.gov](mailto:Assemblymember.Bates@assembly.ca.gov)

74th District - Mark Wyland (R)  
916-319-2074  760-631-7670  
[Assemblymember.Wyland@assembly.ca.gov](mailto:Assemblymember.Wyland@assembly.ca.gov)

75th District - George Plescia (R)  
916-319-2075  858-385-0070  
[Assemblymember.Plescia@assembly.ca.gov](mailto:Assemblymember.Plescia@assembly.ca.gov)

76th District - Christine Kehoe (D)  
916-319-2076  619-294-7600  
[Assemblymember.Kehoe@assembly.ca.gov](mailto:Assemblymember.Kehoe@assembly.ca.gov)

77th District - Jay La Suer (R)  
916-319-2077  619-465-7723  
[Assemblymember.Lasuer@assembly.ca.gov](mailto:Assemblymember.Lasuer@assembly.ca.gov)

78th District - Shirley Horton (R)  
916-319-2078  619-462-7878  
[Assemblymember.Horton@assembly.ca.gov](mailto:Assemblymember.Horton@assembly.ca.gov)

79th District - Juan Vargas (D)  
916-319-2079  619-409-7979  
[Assemblymember.Vargas@assembly.ca.gov](mailto:Assemblymember.Vargas@assembly.ca.gov)

80th District - Bonnie Garcia (R)  
916-319-2080  760-336-8912  
[Assemblymember.Garcia@assembly.ca.gov](mailto:Assemblymember.Garcia@assembly.ca.gov)

Mailing Address for California Assembly Members:  
California State Assembly, PO Box 942849, Sacramento CA 94249-0001