



# Lawmaker Visit Resources

August 2019



# Hosting Lawmakers at Jobsites and/or Chapter Events

- ❑ **Objective:** Achieve ABC Strategic Goal #2, Political Advocacy, Success Criteria 2.1b - Hold 70 lawmaker visits on both sides of the aisle.
  - ❑ Will also be included in the 2020 Strategic Planning Goals.
- ❑ Great way to give legislators at the federal, state and local levels a chance to see the industry at work and meet employees.
- ❑ Serves as a valuable opportunity to reinforce personal relationships, show elected officials how their actions affect the construction industry and discuss relevant issues.
- ❑ Legislators enjoy meeting their constituents and ABC builds awareness of the merit shop through these productive interactions, which can also generate good press coverage.

# Arranging a Visit – Things to Keep in Mind

- ❑ Communication is key. Clearly state the purpose of the event, along with time, location, audience and number of attendees.
- ❑ Be prepared by ensuring you understand the political issues. See the [2019 Recess Toolkit](#).
- ❑ Personal experience is a powerful asset for you and your employees.
- ❑ Contact ABC National Government Affairs for assistance obtaining your member office's contact information.

**Roll  
Call**

## 2019 CONGRESSIONAL CALENDAR



■ Both chambers in session  
■ Senate only in session  
■ House only in session

### January

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
		1 New Year's Day	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21 MLK Day	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

### February

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18 Presidents Day	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28		

### March

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

### April

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19 Good Fri. Recess (begins)	20
21 Easter Sunday	22	23	24	25	26	27
28 Orthodox Easter	29	30				

### May

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
		1	2	3	4	
5	6 Memorial Day (begins)	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27 Memorial Day	28	29	30	31	

### June

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
						1
2	3	4 Jun 4th (for)	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

### July

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
	1	2	3	4 Independence Day	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

### August

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11 Eid al-Adha	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

### September

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
1	2 Labor Day	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

### October

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
		1 Rv 20 (begins)	2	3	4	5
6	7	8 Vets. Recess (begins)	9	10	11	12
13	14 Columbus Day	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27 Dussehra	28	29	30	31		

### November

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11 Veterans Day	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28 Thanksgiving Day	29	30

### December

Sun.	Mon.	Tues.	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22 Hanukkah (begins)	23	24	25 Christmas Day	26 Kwanzaa (begins)	27	28
29	30	31				

# Be Prepared – Do your Homework

- ☐ Look up your elected officials and their voting records on key ABC issues [here](#) or by downloading the ABC Action App.
- ☐ Take action today! Respond to ABC's action alerts on the [ABC Action Center](#).
- ☐ Watch ABC National's latest Legislative Updates below.





# Tips on Developing Your Message

- ☐ Have a single, focused message that could be conveyed in a short headline.
- ☐ Stick to issues most important to your members, the district or state economy, and ABC.
- ☐ The event should be newsworthy or of particular interest to your membership and the general public.
  - ☐ Ideas for visits: jobsite tour, EIC Awards, training center graduations, young professional events, state conventions, ribbon cutting and grand opening ceremonies, fundraisers and networking events, etc.
- ☐ Ask the elected official whether they want the event open or closed to the press.
- ☐ Identify employees whose stories could add to the narrative of event or visit.



# Media and Communications – Before the Event

- ☐ Identify strong speakers, such as the board chair or construction workers at the jobsite, who can introduce the member or share their own stories with the audience and press
- ☐ Three to five days before the event, create a media alert and share with targeted local media inviting them to attend. It's helpful to include interview opportunities in the alert, such as with the member, chapter president or select workers (ABC National can help identify proper media contacts) and send a reminder. Add alert to your website.
- ☐ Provide talking points or scripts with a run of show to speakers. Conduct mock interviews as needed.
- ☐ Use banners or podium signs with ABC branding.
- ☐ Hire a photographer or identify a team member to document the event.



# Media and Communications – Day of the Event

- ☐ Send an early morning reminder or call media who haven't RSVP'ed; share the list of media attending with the member in advance.
- ☐ Identify an ABC staff person who can greet any reporters in attendance and assist throughout the event with interviews or other needs.
- ☐ If appropriate, put out a press release about the member's visit, include photos and captions once the event concludes.
- ☐ Post photos and highlights from the event on social media channels.
- ☐ Share highlights and photos with ABC for inclusion in the Balanced Scorecard, Newsline or Year in Review.



# Sen. Ted Cruz (R-Texas) Visits ABC Greater Houston Member Spawglass Jobsite

facebook [Sign Up](#)



FOX 26  
5:26 77°  
SEN. TED CRUZ  
JOBS (R) TEXAS  
FOX 26 houston.com

Associated Builders and Contractors of Greater Houston  
April 17 · 🌐

Senator Ted Cruz visited SpawGlass' site at The Village of Southampton in Rice Village yesterday to discuss his education bill. Cruz's proposal provides skilled training opportunities for those entering the workforce for the first time, or returning to school for further education. [Performance Contractors](#)

37 35 Shares

Ted Cruz Retweeted

ABC Greater Houston  
@ABCHouston

RT @ABCHouston: We enjoyed seeing @SenTedCruz at @SpawGlass1953's jobsite at The Village of Southampton today! @FOX26Houston <https://t.co/u...>



9:20 AM · Apr 17, 2019 · [Twitter for iPhone](#)

37 Retweets 131 Likes





# ABC Pelican Hosts Texas Gov. Abbott, Republican Gubernatorial Candidates at Economic Roundtable

A [case study of ABC Pelican's media and social outreach for this event](#) is available on National Connections.



3/18/2019  
0 Comments

## ABC Pelican Hosts Texas Governor Abbott, Louisiana Business Leaders & Republican Gubernatorial Candidates For Roundtable Discussion

**BATON ROUGE, LA.** – The Pelican Chapter of Associated Builders & Contractors, Inc., today hosted Texas Governor Greg Abbott during his visit to Baton Rouge. At ABC Pelican, Governor Abbott met with local business leaders and the Republican gubernatorial candidates for a roundtable and to tour the Baton Rouge Training Center. Those present highlighted the need to make Louisiana's economy competitive again.



### BUSINESS

## Tx. governor visits with La. contractor group to discuss business opportunities



Gov. Greg Abbott (center) visits with local business leaders and Republican candidates for governor in Louisiana

By Rachael Thomas | March 18, 2019 at 8:41 PM CDT - Updated March 18 at 11:02 PM

BATON ROUGE, LA (WAFFB) - Texas Governor Greg Abbott made a visit to Baton Rouge Monday, Mar. 18 to meet with local business leaders.

The governor toured the Pelican Chapter of the Associated Builders & Contractors, Inc. During a speech, he discussed how business differs in Louisiana versus Texas.





# ABC Illinois Holds Fundraiser for Members of State Legislative Black Caucus



Associated Builders and Contractors, Inc. - Illinois Chapter  
@ABCIllinoisChapter

- Home
- About
- Reviews
- Photos
- Events
- Notes
- Videos
- Posts
- Community

Create a Page

 Like

 Follow

 Share



**Associated Builders and Contractors, Inc. - Illinois Chapter**

July 24 at 1:33 PM · 🌐

Thank you to all who attended and contributed to the fundraiser honoring Senator Jacqueline Collins, Senator Napoleon Harris III, Senator Mattie Hunter, Representative William Davis, and Representative Nicholas Smith, and a special thank you to Manhattan Mechanical Services and MKD Electric for hosting the event with Contractor's for Free Enterprise.

The legislators had a great time touring Manhattan Mechanical's facility and even tried their hand at welding and operating a boom lift!

#ABCMeritShopProud #MyCommunityBuilders #ApprenticeshipWORKS #LearnYourTrade



 8

 Like

 Comment

 Share





## After the Visit

- ☐ Always send a thank you note. Reiterate key points made during the visit.
- ☐ Send photos to the legislator and their staff. If open to media coverage, recommend they include the visit in their newsletter.
- ☐ Send a photo with a long caption listing the participants, location and topics discussed to any media who did not attend the event.
- ☐ Promote on your own social media platforms.
- ☐ Keep ABC National up to date – send a brief description of your meeting, including highlights of what was discussed and photographs, to the following contacts.
  - ☐ Rachel O’Grady, Director of Media Relations ([ogrady@abc.org](mailto:ogrady@abc.org))
  - ☐ Patrick McCarty, Grassroots Manager ([mccarty@abc.org](mailto:mccarty@abc.org))