



BECOMING AN ADVOCATE

Engaging with your members of Congress is a vital part of the democratic process and an effective way to influence policy decisions that affect your community, particularly on specialized healthcare issues like echocardiography and cardiovascular ultrasound.

Interacting with your representatives helps ensure your voice is heard on critical matters such as Medicare reimbursement rates, coverage decisions, and quality standards for cardiovascular imaging services.

GRASSROOTS OUTREACH TO LEADERS



WHEN REACHING OUT TO LAWMAKERS BE SURE TO:

- **Introduce yourself** as a constituent, provide your personal details (such as name and practice/institution name)
- Identify the "ask" - **specific legislation** or issue related to your outreach.
 - Request support or opposition for a specific bill or resolution.
- **Include any stories** or examples relevant
- Summarize your "ask" and ask if the member has a position.
- **Thank the members** for their time and offer to be a resource in the future.

TIPS FOR BEING AN EFFECTIVE ADVOCATE

Outline a clear and concise legislative ask

Aim to only address one issue

Address the members and their staff with courtesy

Offer to host the members and their staff for a site visit to your institution

Share personal stories and local impacts

Consistent communication and follow up

Additional Resources: Visit the ASE Advocacy [Take Action page](#) for sample phone scripts, talking points, and additional resources to prepare you for interactions with your Members of Congress.