

# LOBBY DAY CONVERSATION GUIDE

*Conversation Guides are designed to assist volunteers in discussions they are having with a particular audience to advance a campaign goal.*

*The Lobby Day Conversation Guide is a resource for any ACLU of Kentucky volunteer attending a regular session or interim Lobby Day. It provides volunteers with an outline of a “typical” conversation with legislators and is provided to volunteers in advance of their scheduled Lobby Day.*

## PURPOSE



*The purpose of this document is to prepare volunteers participating in a Lobby Day. In addition to this document, Lobby Day volunteers will receive information about the lawmaker(s) they are meeting with as well as a one-pager and status update on the bill they are discussing.*

## APPETIZER



*This section is designed to start a conversation with lawmakers. As a reminder, you will have an ACLU of Kentucky staff person or lobby day captain who will “set the table” and get things kicked off.*

- Hello Representative or Senator [name] thank you so much for meeting with us!
- My name is [name] and I am a volunteer with the ACLU of Kentucky.
- Thank you so much for meeting with us – have you heard anything about [bill or issue]? It is [bill number], filed by [lawmaker], we would love to talk to you about it!

## ENTREE



*This section is designed to help you share your story or solicit a story from the lawmaker. This is really the meat and potatoes of your conversation. You can use a piece of information from our one-pager to transition to your own story.*

For example, if you are talking to a lawmaker about Caregiver Consideration you might say, “We wanted to talk to you about this bill because we think investing in community-based alternatives to incarceration can help keep Kentuckians safer and keep families together. My experience was [summary of story].”

If you were talking about Paid Parental Leave, you might say, “Most states surrounding Kentucky offer paid parental leave to state workers. When I was pregnant...”

You may believe that a lawmakers’ specific experience or expertise is relevant, and this could be a good place to bring it up. You might say, “Rep. Graham, as a former public-school teacher we think you may have a great understanding of why history classes need to offer accurate information about our country’s history, even if it is uncomfortable. That’s why we want to talk to you about [bill name or number].”

## DESSERT



*This section is designed to end your conversation with lawmakers.*

- Thank you so much for meeting with us today Representative or Senator [name], we know your time is valuable. What questions or feedback do you have for us?
- Currently the bill is [status of bill]. Do you know how you would vote on this bill if it were to come before you in/on [the House Floor or House Judiciary, etc...]?
- Thanks so much for meeting with us, it sounds like you support the idea of the bill. Would you be willing to be a co-sponsor?
- We really appreciate this opportunity, can we take a picture with you and share it on social media?

If the meeting went well, you should ask for the legislator’s business card/best contact so the volunteer can follow up with a thank you email and/or continue the conversation.