



Attending Your Members of Congress' Town Halls:

In a traditional town hall format, the Member of Congress will start with a speech, then hold a question and answer session. This will give you an opportunity to interact directly with them and bring this issue to their attention.

- The [Townhall Project](#) will help you identify where your Member of Congress will hold their next town hall.
- If the information the Congressional office shares on the town hall meeting does not make it clear how to ask questions, please either call their office to find out or arrive early to sign up to ask a question. If there is no sign-in sheet, please find a staff member to ask them how to ask a question. Make sure you follow all instructions.
- Think about what you want to say in advance. We provide a sample comment on the next page, but in general you will want to be succinct, polite, and make what you are asking for clear. If you can add a short sentence about why the topic is important to you, it will make your question more compelling.
- When asking your question, state your name and city of residence to establish that you are a constituent. Thank the Member for hosting the event, and once they have responded to you, thank them for answering your question.
- Members of Congress often stay on after their town halls have ended to talk further with their constituents. As such, consider bringing hand-outs such as the talking points shared in our action alert.
- Please let us know if you attended any town halls, and what your experience was. If you think you made a good connection with your Member of Congress, we will follow up with their office in Washington, D.C. to further the relationship. Please send this information to Ms. Doris Parfaite-Claude, Government Relations Manager, at dparfaite-claude@ancor.org.
- Finally, please send a thank you note to the office within a week. Mention your name and city, the time and place of the event you attended, and reiterate your key talking points. Make sure to include additional information if you promised them any at the town hall, such as statistics or one-pagers. If you do not know the answer to a question they ask, do not be afraid to say so. Please refer them to ANCOR so we can answer the question.

Sample Town Hall Comments

“My name is [SAY NAME] and I live in [SAY CITY]. I appreciate you coming to speak to us, and thank you for taking my question. I care deeply about issues affecting people with disabilities. The AHCA as passed by the House failed people with disabilities because it: affects the stability of supports people with disabilities need in daily life by worsening the acute workforce crisis these supports face; it does not protect funding for people with disabilities; and it harms special education programs that support childhood development. Please make sure the Senate version addresses these issues and does significantly better for people with disabilities. I am happy to speak with your staff about what this means after this event.”