Advocacy Tips

Adapted from an X (formerly Twitter) thread by @lesliezye

Note: these tips originally came from a Capitol Hill staff member, but are equally applicable to advocacy within Georgia.

1. Correspondence from constituents is logged, meaning the rep’s staff keeps a tally of how many people write in on a particular topic. So contacting your own reps is most effective.
2. Phone calls are the most effective way to contact a rep, although in busy times you may get voicemail. Those calls should also be logged by the staff, so when you call, say you’re a constituent, ask them to log your call, and mention a specific action item.
3. Personalized emails will receive more attention than form emails. Form emails are viewed as less important and too easy for a person to spend. The attitude is that a constituent who really cares about the issue would write an original email.
4. A large number of personalized emails on the same topic will probably get the attention of a senior staff member, who would then ideally inform the rep.
5. Always include an action item; the more specific you can be, the better. Whenever possible, mention a specific bill (by number), a resolution (referring to the resolution’s sponsor), or a specific policy request (e.g., abolish the death penalty).