Building the **Right to Health** Movement
Building Relationships with Members of Congress
What is a Congressional Visit?
Why Visit?

• Use our constituent power
• Influence our legislators
• Mobilize for global health equity
Why now?

• Build Relationships
• Show power
• Find out where they are on the champion scale
Scheduling and preparing for a Congressional visit
What’s in a visit?

EPIC:
E - Engage: Build a Relationship
P - Problem: Global Health Funding is in a serious crisis
I - Inform on a solution: They can help!
C - Call to action: Here’s how...
How to Schedule a Visit

Do research: Who will we meet with?
Sen. Lindsey Graham
Senator from South Carolina, Republican

Graham, a Republican, has been a senator from South Carolina since Jan 7, 2003 (next election in 2020).

He was previously the representative for South Carolina's 3rd congressional district (1995-2002).
Our unique analysis of the bills Graham has sponsored and cosponsored provides insight into his position in the Senate.

Each dot in the chart below is a member of the Senate. The dots are positioned horizontally according to our progressive—conservative ideology score and vertically according to our leadership score (leaders toward the top). Graham is shown as a purple triangle. (analysis methodology)

2015 Statistics

Read our 2015 Report Card for Graham for more statistics.
Lindsey Graham sits on the following committees:

- Senate Committee on Appropriations
- Chairman, Subcommittee on State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs
- Member, Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies
- Member, Subcommittee on Department of Defense
- Member, Subcommittee on Department of Homeland Security
- Member, Subcommittee on Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies
- Member, Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development
- Senate Committee on Armed Services
- Chairman, Subcommittee on Personnel
- Member, Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities
- Member, Subcommittee on Strategic Forces
- Senate Committee on the Judiciary
- Chairman, Subcommittee on Crime and Terrorism
- Member, Subcommittee on Oversight, Agency Action, Federal Rights and Federal Courts
- Member, Subcommittee on Privacy, Technology and the Law
- Member, Subcommittee on the Constitution
- Senate Committee on the Budget
Think Strategically: Decide when you’d like to meet with your congressperson.
How to Schedule a Visit

1. Start **early**

2. **Call** your Congressperson’s **local office**

3. **Be** persistent!

4. **Ask** to conference in relevant **DC staff**
Meeting Preparation

To Do List:

• Background research
• Decide who is attending
• Check in with your team’s coach
• Set an agenda
• Assign speaking roles (and practice!)
• Print leave behind (from http://engage.pih.org/advocacy)
At the Meeting: Tips and Agenda
Speaking Roles:
1. Introduction
2. Thank the MOC
3. Personal story connecting the issue
4. Laser talk + The Ask
5. Closing remarks and photo-op

Other roles include notetaker and time keeper.

Practice, practice, practice!
At the Meeting

• Thank Congressperson for time and supportive action
• Connect on a personal level
• Give a concise laser talk on the issue
• Make the ask!
• Make a plan for follow up
At the Meeting

• Be confident
• Be clear
• Take notes
• Leave with a plan
• Leave a Leave-Behind*
• Collect business cards*
At the Meeting

Take a Picture!
After the Meeting

Follow up, follow up, follow up!

• Plan to speak with their office several times
• Report back to the network
• Fill out the meeting report form right away: http://engage.pih.org/meet_congress
1) Who are your team’s local representatives?

2) Who represents the members of your team?

3) How many MOC meetings will you aim for this year? How will you set this target?

4) Where else can you access your MOCs?