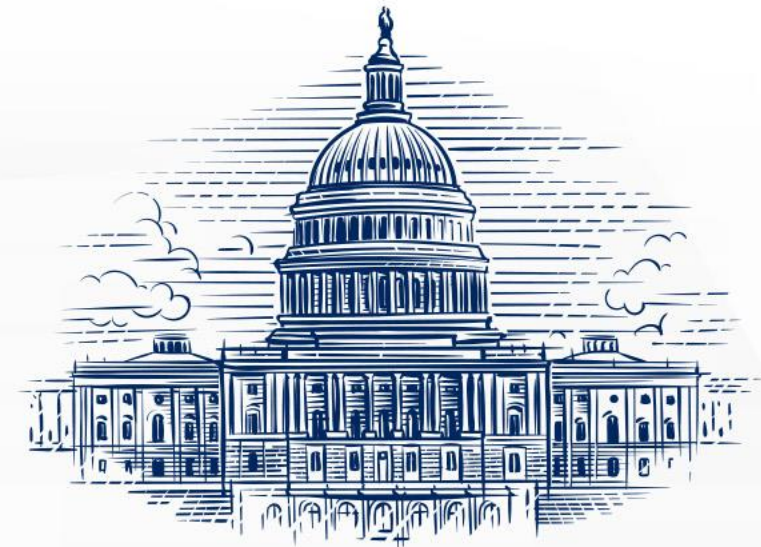


Washington Week 101

March 2nd-5th, 2025





Agenda

Presented By:

Tammy Barlet, VP of Government Affairs
Faisal Sulman, Legal Fellow

Washington Week 101 Review



Schedule of Events

Researching Your Member of Congress

Meeting Day

Policy Priorities



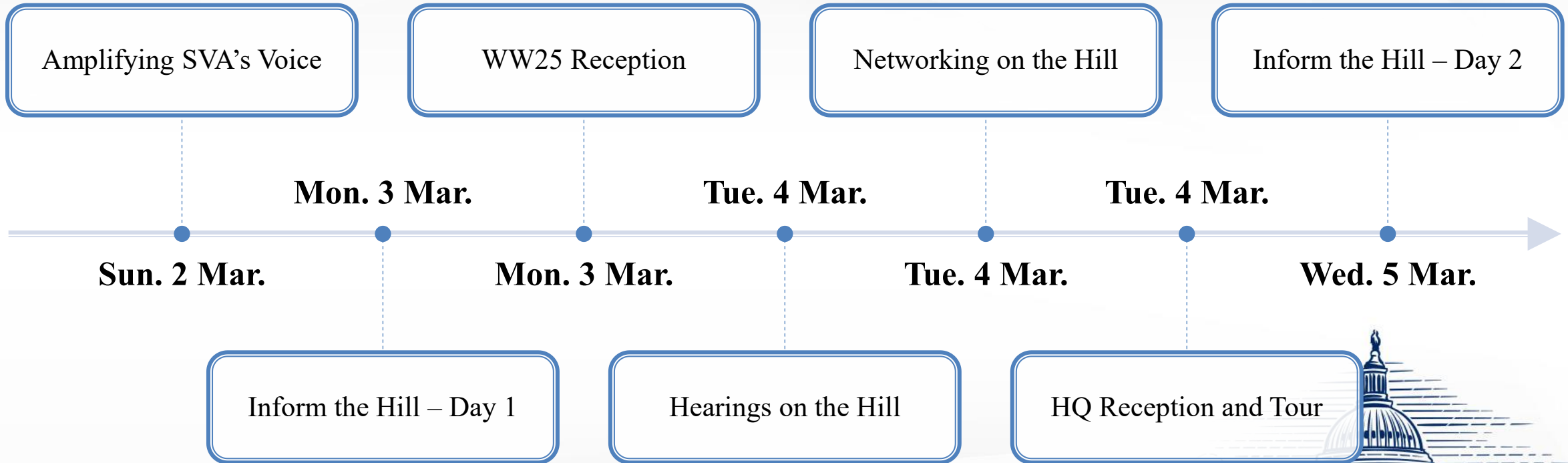
Story Telling



Q&A

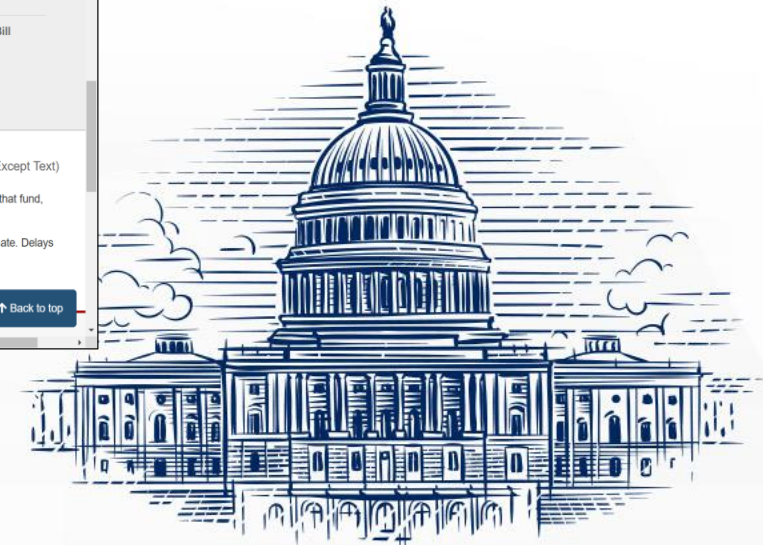
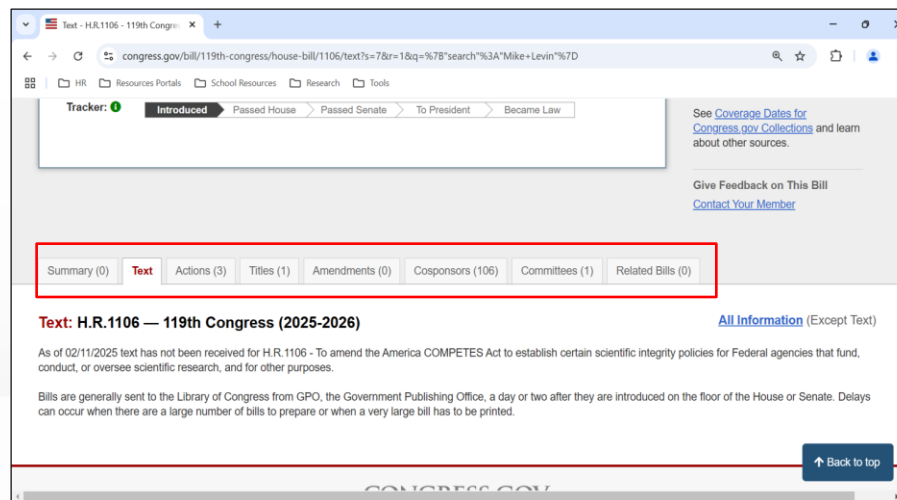


Schedule of Events



Researching Your Member of Congress

1. <https://www.congress.gov/members/find-your-member>
2. Look at their Committee Membership and Voting History
3. Sponsorships/Co-Sponsorships
4. Sign up for Alerts and Explore the Bills!
5. Check out the members website



Before Your Hill Meetings

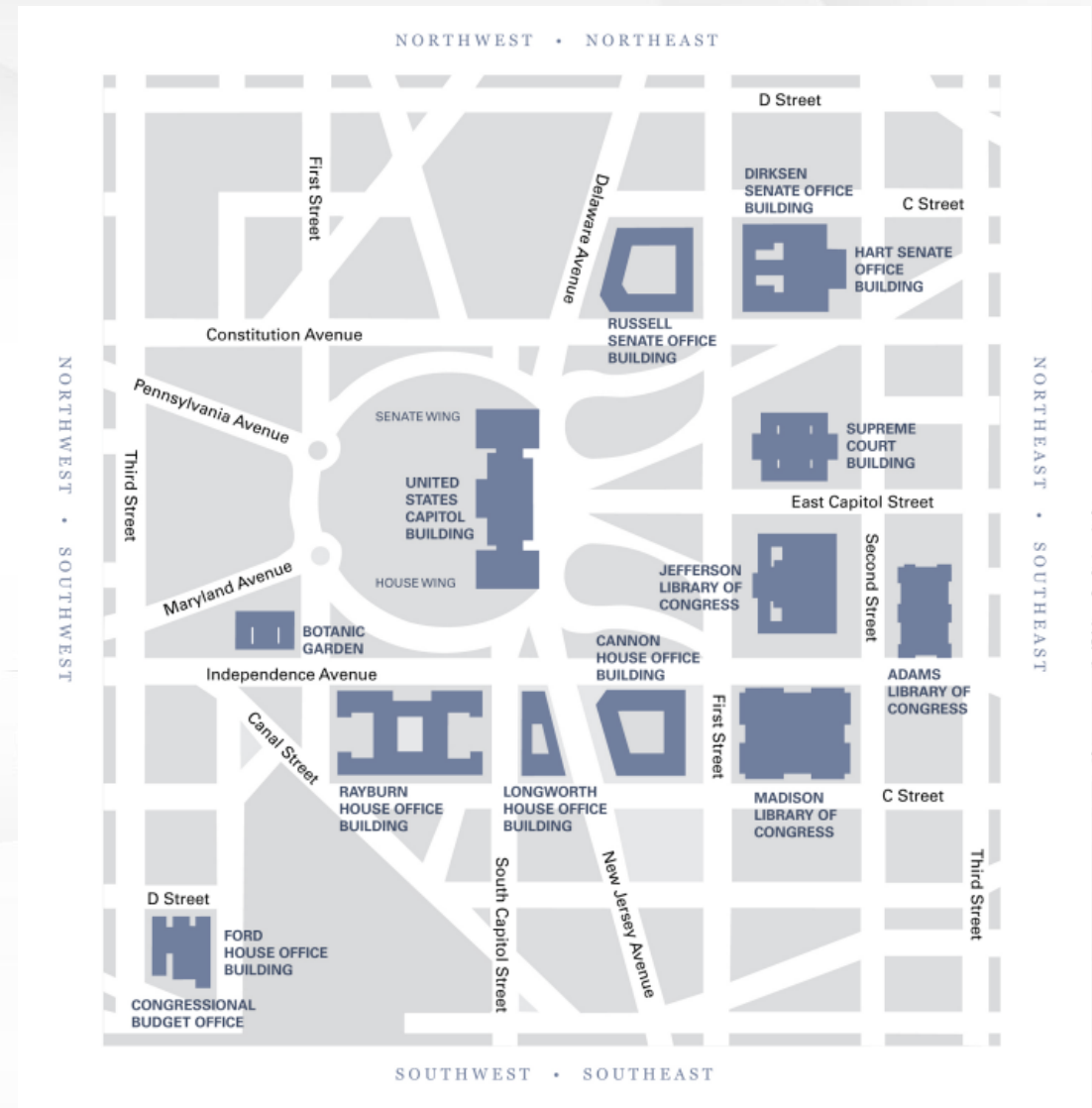
- Early in the week confirm your appointment day, location, and time
- Day of Appointment
 - Arrive early
 - Security and prohibited items in Senate and House Office Buildings
 - Bags exceeding the size of 18" wide x 14" high x 8.5" deep.
 - Firearms to include replica guns and ammunition.
 - Weapons (to include but not limited to): Black jack, sling shot, sand club, sandbag, knuckles, electric stun guns, knives (with blades longer than 3"), razors, box cutters, martial arts weapons or devices. Knives with blades 3" or less are permitted.
 - Explosives and explosive devices to include, but not limited to, Molotov Cocktails, components of a destructive device, and fireworks.
 - Pointed objects to include, but not limited to, knitting needles, letter openers, or other pointed objects deemed a possible threat. Pens and pencils are permitted. This restriction does not apply to staff.
 - Sealed envelopes and packages. This restriction does not apply to staff.
- After Washington Week



Thank you message

At Your Hill Meetings

1. Go to the front desk, introduce yourself, and explain that you have a meeting with (Staffer/Member)
2. Once the meeting begins, exchange business cards and introduce yourself
3. Thank them for their time, and anything the Member has done recently that you support
4. State your ask and share your issue/message Practice, practice, and establish a game plan
5. Answer any questions or tell them you will follow up with the requested information
6. Share your leave-behind and thank them again for their time.



What to Wear

- **Casual** – Chapter time and sight seeing.
- **Business Casual** – SVA Headquarters Open House, but not the Reception.
- **Business Professional** – Joint Hearing, meetings with elected officials, Reception.



CASUAL

This style is acceptable and prevalent within many office settings and most events outside of work. While your business may allow for informal dress, make sure to avoid casual wear for the interview process.

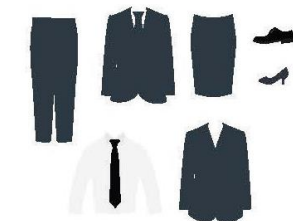
Acceptable: T-shirts, sweaters, jeans, shorts, sneakers or sandals.



BUSINESS CASUAL

If you aren't positive what attire is needed for an event or an interview, your best bet is business casual, which incorporates elements of formal wear with elements of casual wear.

Acceptable: Button-down shirts, khakis, blazers, pencil skirts, blouses, loafers, boots, heels or closed-toed shoes.



BUSINESS PROFESSIONAL

Use this style for conservative work settings. As opposed to the loose-fitting nature of casual attire, business professional should be tailored according to your measurements.

Acceptable: Full suit, tie, knee-length dresses or skirts, button-down shirts, blouses, dress shoes, heels, or closed-toed shoes.



SVA 2025 Policy Priorities

- 1 VA Education Improvements
- 2 Nontraditional Student Success
- 3 Strengthening Higher Education
- 4 Transparency and Education
- 5 VA Modernization



Storytelling with Cappy Surette!



Reach Out to SVA Government Affairs Staff If You Are a Constituent of...



Rep. Mike Bost (IL-12)



Rep. Mark Takano (CA-39)



Rep. Derrick Van Orden (WI-03)



Rep. Chris Pappas (NH-01)



Rep. Mike Johnson (LA-04)



Rep. Steve Scalise (LA-01)



Rep. Hakeem Jeffries (NY-08)



Sen. Jerry Moran (KS)



Sen. Richard Blumenthal (CT)



Sen. John Thune (SD)



Sen. Charles Schumer (NY)



Rep. Tom Emmer (MN-06)



Rep. Katherine Clark (MA-05)



Sen. John Barrasso (WY)



Sen. Richard Durbin (IL)





Share Your Experience



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#SVALeads



#WeAreSVA



#StudentVeterans



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