

LOBBYIST GUIDE

KYA | HS | CABINET & LOBBYISTS | DELEGATE ROLE

1. HOW TO BECOME A LOBBYIST

- ❑ **Lobbyist** is a **Delegate Role** available at **High School KYA** to all delegates who meet eligibility requirements for the Commonwealth House and Senate - www.kyymca.org/kya/commonwealth. Delegations can have 1 Lobbyist for every Commonwealth Bill they sponsor (max of 5). There are **no** lobbyists for the Bluegrass House and Senate.

2. BEFORE YOUR KYA REGISTRATION DEADLINE | Check Deadlines: www.kyymca.org/kya

- ❑ Select **1 Commonwealth Bill** sponsored by your delegation to **support** as a Lobbyist.
 - Delegations can have up to 5 Commonwealth Bills (based on the # of Commonwealth delegates they have). Therefore, delegations can have up to 5 Lobbyists – one supporting each bill.
 - Any Commonwealth Bills not assigned to a lobbyist from their delegation will be made available after the registration deadline for lobbyists from other delegations to support or oppose at KYA.
- ❑ Choose a **Client** to represent who supports the policies in the bill you've selected from your delegation.
 - You can choose any client with a vested interest in supporting the policies outlined by your bill. Need help choosing a client? Use the Client Database located in the Cabinet & Lobbyist section of the KYA Resource page at www.kyymca.org/kya/resources or email the Program Coordinator (contact info on resource page).
- ❑ Submit your **Client Profile** for your chosen client. This is **required** for lobbyist award eligibility.
 - Submit your profile online in the Cabinet & Lobbyist section of www.kyymca.org/kya/resources. The resource page also includes a downloadable template to help you draft your profile.

2. AFTER YOUR KYA REGISTRATION DEADLINE

- ❑ You will be assigned **1 Commonwealth Bill** from another delegation to **oppose**. For this bill you are opposing, you are not representing a client – you are an independent lobbyist.
 - The bill you're assigned to oppose will be listed on the Cabinet & Lobbyist **Program Database**, emailed to you by the Program Coordinator once registration for your KYA has been processed.
 - This database will also provide contact info for all Cabinet & Lobbyist delegates, Supporting Officers, and Presiding Officers, which will help you network prior to KYA and ensure effective communications at KYA.
- ❑ **Optional:** Request up to **3 Bills** listed as **available** on the program database to **support** or **oppose**
 - In addition to the bill you're supporting and the bill you are assigned to oppose, all lobbyist delegates can request up to 3 bills listed as "available" on the program database to either support or oppose. These bills were submitted without lobbyists from their delegations.
 - These bills are **optional**, and have no bearing on awards, but give lobbyists more opportunities to meet with the Cabinet/advance to the Budget Committee by supporting/opposing more bills.
 - If you request to **support** an available bill, you do **not** need to represent a client, but you may choose to do so if it matches your existing client.
- ❑ Submit the text of your **Committee Testimony** (1 min. per bill) for all bills you are supporting or opposing. Submitting your testimony is **required** for lobbyist award eligibility (Deadline set by Program Coordinator).
 - Submit your testimony online in the Cabinet & Lobbyist section of www.kyymca.org/kya/resources
- ❑ Create **Talking Points** for all of the bills you are supporting or opposing.
 - After committees, Lobbyists do **NOT** have speaking rights during House/Senate debate. Instead, you'll prepare and distribute Talking Points that provide legislators with key points on your bill.
 - The Talking Points template is in the Cabinet & Lobbyist section of the KYA Resources page, but you can design your own talking points as long as they list **your name, your client (if applicable)**, and the **bill # you're supporting/opposing** - bill #'s will be on the Cabinet & Lobbyist Program Database.

- ❑ On the first day of KYA, you'll be responsible for building coalitions of Commonwealth Representatives and Senators during the Education Fair to support and oppose your bills. To prepare, review the **Legislative Coalition** template in the Cabinet & Lobbyist section of the KYA Resources page: www.kyymca.org/resources.
- ❑ **11th grade** Cabinet & Lobbyist participants are eligible to **become a Presiding Officer** for next year's KYA in the role of Secretary of the Executive Cabinet. If you are interested, please sign, along with your advisor and parents, the **PO Commitment Form** and bring it to KYA: www.kyymca.org/commitment

3. DURING KYA

- ❑ **DAY 1 | Attend Cabinet & Lobbyist Day 1 Meeting**
At this meeting, you'll receive your Lobbyist Folder (Red or Blue, depending on your tag), with copies of the Legislative Coalition template for you to use during the Education Fair, and a copy of the Program Database. Additional blank Talking Points will be available to those who need them.
- ❑ **Day 1 | Build Legislative Coalitions** during the Education Fair
During the Education Fair, you'll need to recruit Senators/Representatives from the committees and chambers to which your bills are assigned who will join coalitions to support or oppose your the bills. Invite those who join you to come strategize during the Lobbyist Dessert Reception.
- ❑ **Day 1 | Invite Coalition Members to the Lobbyist Dessert Reception**
While on break for dinner, Commonwealth Senators and Representatives who joined coalitions with lobbyists can come to the Cabinet & Lobbyist Room for the Lobbyist Dessert Reception, where they can grab dessert while strategizing with lobbyists and your coalitions.
- ❑ **Day 1 | Present Committee Testimony** (1 min. per assigned bill) during Commonwealth Committees
Lobbyists and Cabinet Secretaries present 1-min. testimony on bills they are supporting/opposing. Testimony can be presented either immediately before or after pro/con debate (see Debate Guide on KYA Resources webpage). This way, if you have bills presenting simultaneously, you can finish testimony in one committee then head to the other.
- ❑ **Day 1 | Evening Meeting** to debrief Committees and prepare for Chamber Debate in Hotel/Capitol
After Evening GA adjourns and prior to curfew, all Cabinet & Lobbyist participants will meet in the Cabinet & Lobbyist room to debrief about Committees and go over logistics for debate and meetings at the Hotel and Capitol.
- ❑ **Day 2 | Distribute Talking Points** during Commonwealth House & Senate Debate
Lobbyists are allowed on the floor during House/Senate debate to distribute Talking Points, but only before/after debate, during caucus time, or between speakers. Lobbyists do NOT have speaking privileges during debate.
- ❑ **Day 2 | Meet with the respective Cabinet Secretary** if one of your bills passes the House & Senate
If a Commonwealth Bill passes both the House and Senate, both lobbyists (supporting and opposing) meet separately with the assigned Cabinet Secretary. Lobbyists have 2 min. to open, followed by 3 min. of questions from the Secretary, and a 1-min. closing. After meeting with both lobbyists, the Cabinet Secretary will choose one lobbyist to advance and meet with the Sec. of the Exec. Cabinet. If there is only one lobbyist on the bill, and he/she doesn't display sufficient preparation, the Cabinet Secretary can choose not to advance the lobbyist.
- ❑ **Day 2 | If Selected by Cabinet Secretary, meet with Secretary of the Cabinet**
Lobbyists selected to meet with the Secretary of the Cabinet have the same time restrictions as they did in their earlier meetings (2 min. opening, 3 min. of questions, 1 min. to close).
- ❑ **Day 2 | 4 Lobbyists** will be selected by Sec. of Cabinet to present to the **Budget Committee**
After debate has adjourned on Day 2 and the Sec. of the Cabinet has finished all scheduled meetings with Lobbyists, the Secretary will consult with the full Cabinet and select 4 lobbyists to present their position on one of their bills to the Governor and Budget Committee before dinner. Lobbyists selected to present to the Budget Committee will have the same time restrictions as their earlier meetings, except longer time for questions from the Committee (5 min.). Each Lobbyist will be introduced to the committee by the Cabinet Secretary assigned to their bill, who will provide context for why they chose to advance that lobbyist on the bill.
- ❑ **Day 2 | Evening Meeting for speeches and vote on Sec. of Cabinet, and vote on Outstanding Lobbyist**
During the final Cabinet & Lobbyist meeting on the night of Day 2, all participants (including all delegates, Supporting Officers, and Presiding Officers) will hear speeches by those wanting to serve as next year's Sec. of the Cabinet, then vote on their selection for that position as well as their nominees (2) for Outstanding Lobbyist.
- ❑ **Day 3 | Bill Sponsors challenging a veto can let Lobbyists speak during Veto Override Session**
During their Veto Override presentation, Bill Sponsors get 1 min. to speak. They can choose to yield some or all of that time to their Lobbyist.