



FASD United

Policy & Training Center

March 2023 Policy Forum

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Wednesday
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THE NATIONAL VOICE ON FETAL ALCOHOL SPECTRUM DISORDERS
Formerly NOFAS



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Organization Update

Advocacy Week

SEPTEMBER 18-21, 2023
WASHINGTON, DC

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

← Affiliate Summit →

National
Research
Briefing

National
Research
Briefing

Hill Day

The Red
Shoes
Gala

Hill Day





Affiliate Update



FASD United
Affiliate Network

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FASD Respect Act 2.0

Bill Contents

- Standard Case Definition
- Education, Awareness and Services across community agencies
- Building State and Tribal Systems
- Centers for Excellence



The FASD Respect Act

Building the Foundation for Change

#FASDRESPECT

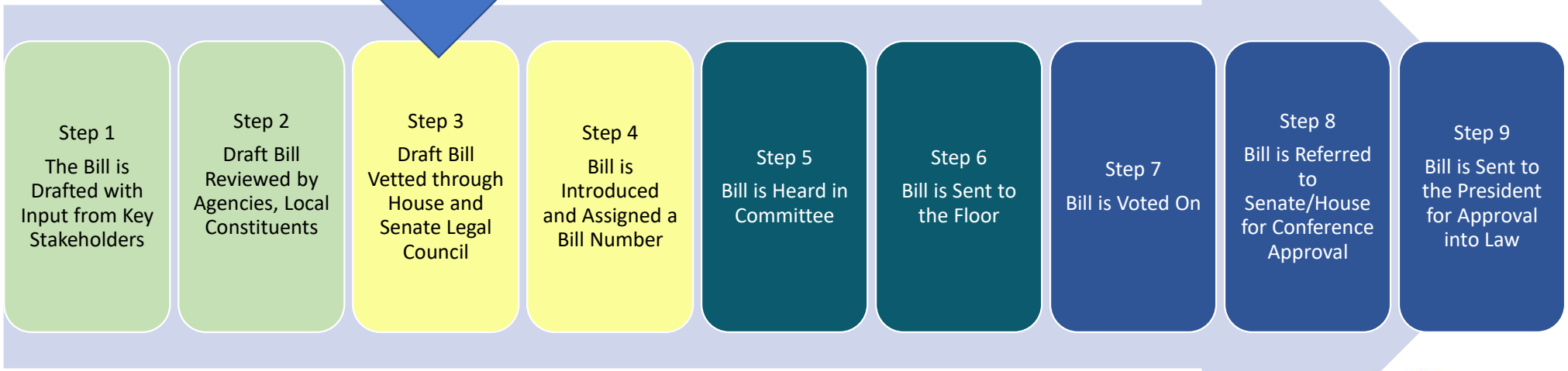
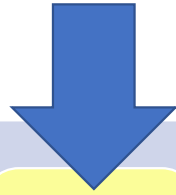
Bill Status

- Currently with Senate Legislative Council with revisions
 - View a copy of the draft text here: <https://bit.ly/RespectDraft>
 - Bring questions to the weekly policy drop-in. Wednesdays 12-12:30 Eastern.
- Lead Authors/Sponsors committed
 - Sen. Lisa Murkowski (Alaska)
 - Sen. Amy Klobuchar (Minnesota)
 - Rep. Betty McCollum (Minnesota)
 - Rep. Don Bacon (Nebraska)



Pathway to Law

JW1



The 118th Congress Lasts for 2 years.



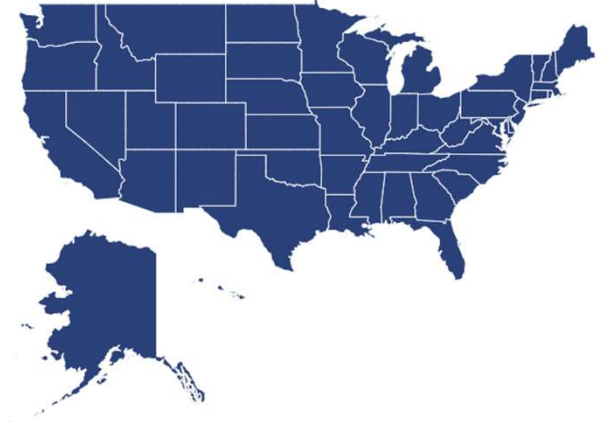
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Slide 7

JW1

Jenny Wisdahl, 5/25/2021

Who are your lawmakers?



- Federal
 - Not to be confused with STATE Senators or Reps
- 2 Senators 1 Rep
 - Senators are Statewide – Serve 6 Years – Serve in the Senate
 - Rep or Congressman/woman/person is based on your address – Serve 2 Years – Serve in the House
 - The House and Senate together are referred to as Congress

www.congress.gov – Find your legislators

www.opensecrets.gov – Find out who's donating to your legislators

Advocacy 101



- **Role of the Sponsors**
 - It's "their" bill. Use political capital to push the bill through. Bill passes, they win.
- **Role of Co-Sponsors**
 - They sign on as supporting the bill and when put to a vote, should vote for it. A way of flagging to their colleagues and constituents that it's an issue they care about.
- **Role of Supporting Organizations**
 - Companies, nonprofits, or other organizations/agencies that will often sign on to a mass letter of support for a bill. This shows their support behind the issue to members of congress. Creates political will.

How can I get involved?

- What can you do?
 - Get organizations to support
 - Get co-sponsors
 - Get others involved

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Organization Support

Sign on Letter now available!

<https://nofaspolicycenter.org/organizations/>

Remember – this is a sign on letter for companies, organizations or agencies, NOT individuals.

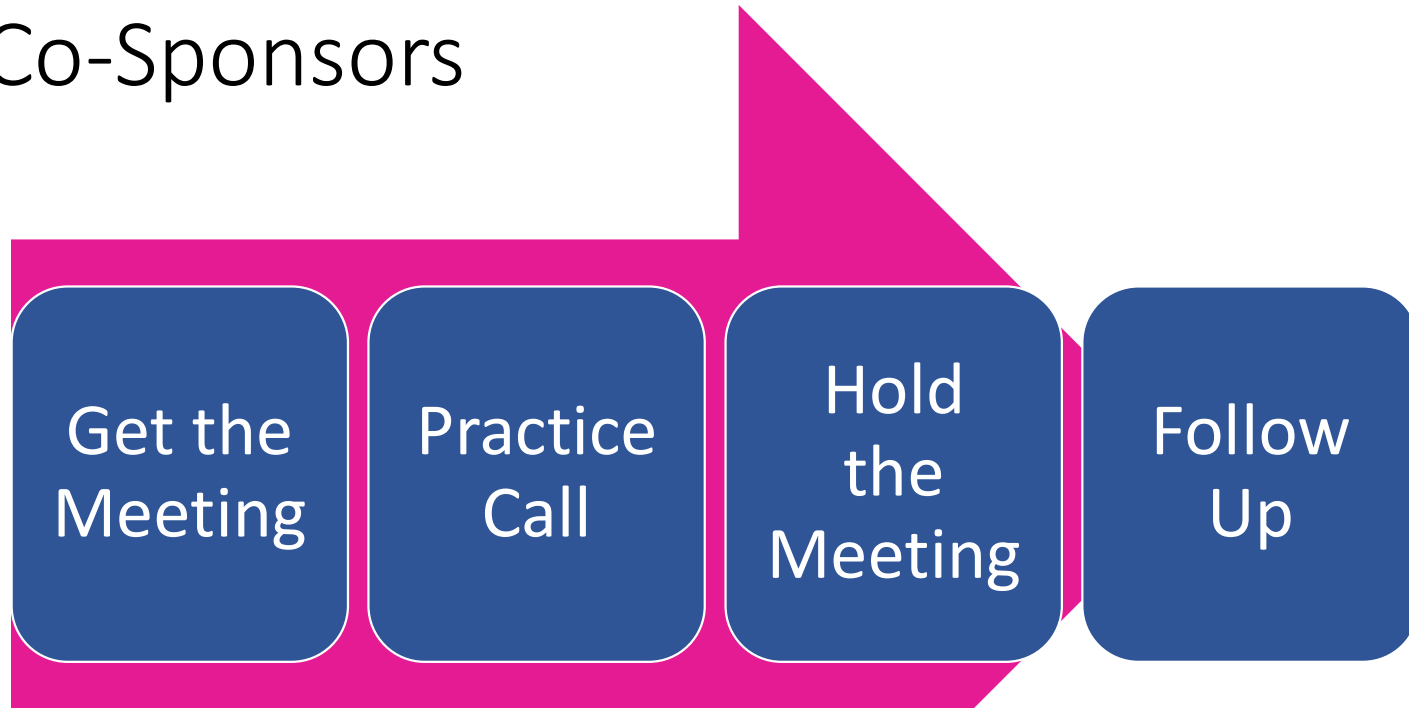
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Get Co-Sponsors



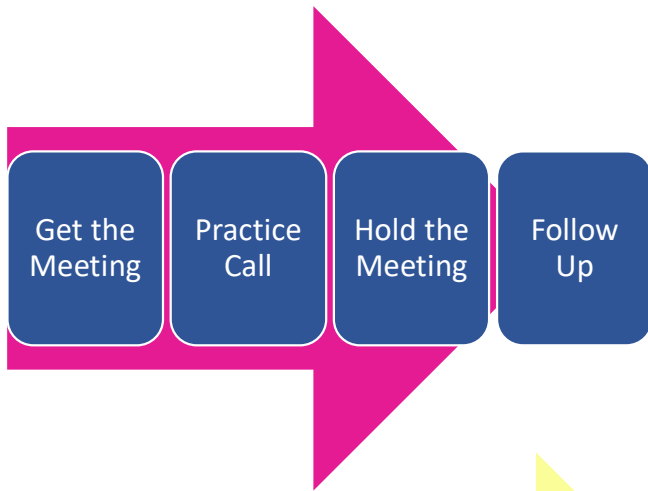
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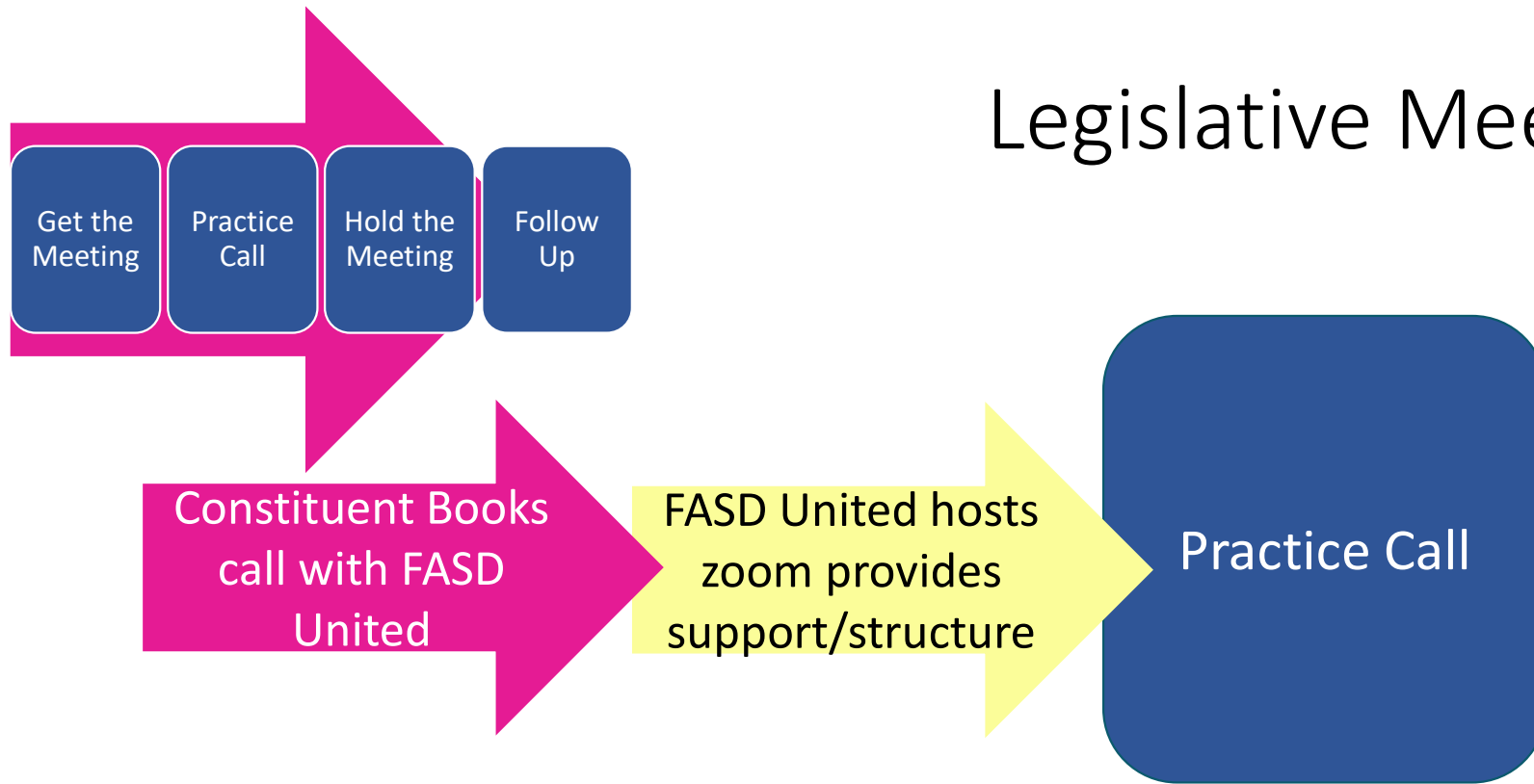
Legislative Meetings



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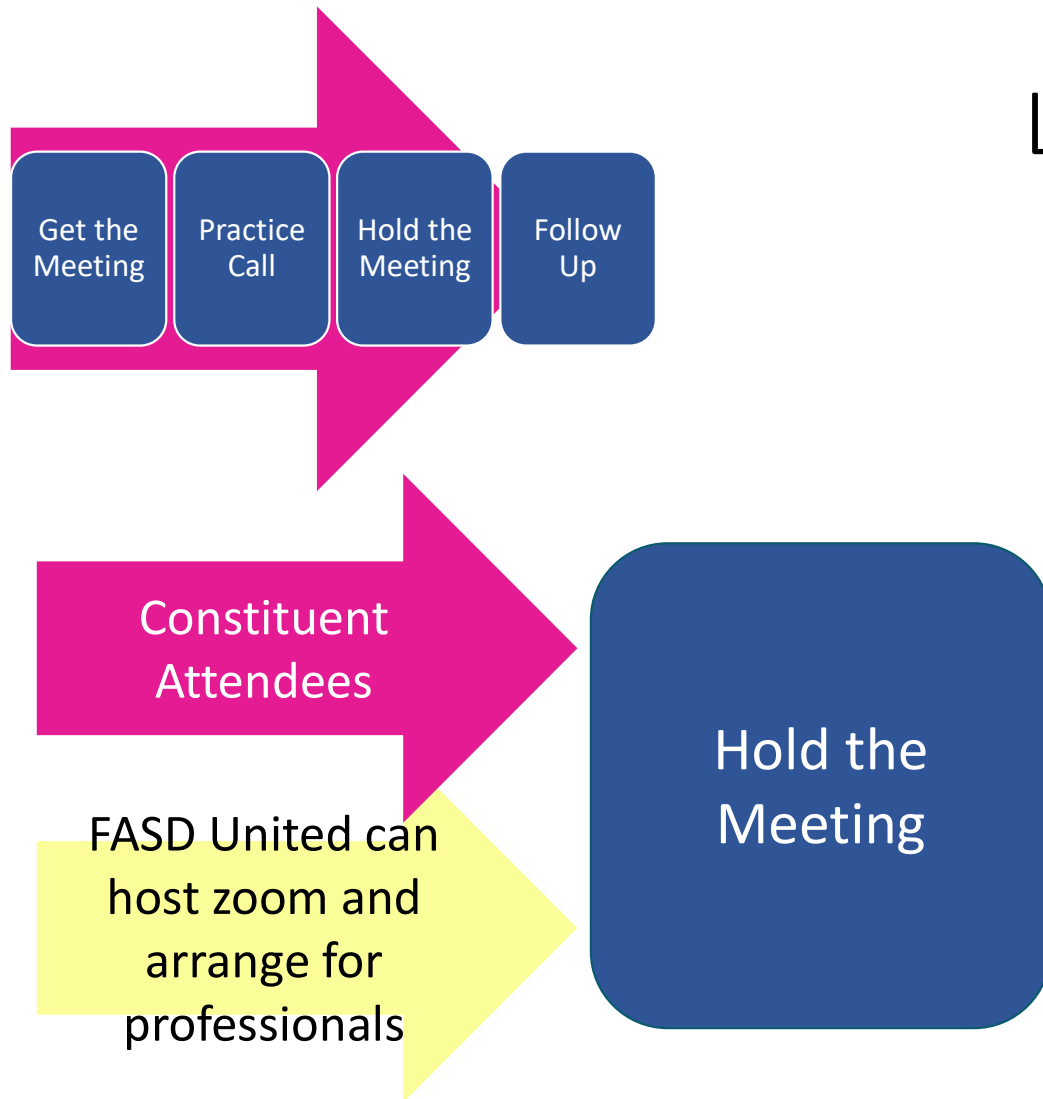
Legislative Meetings



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Legislative Meetings

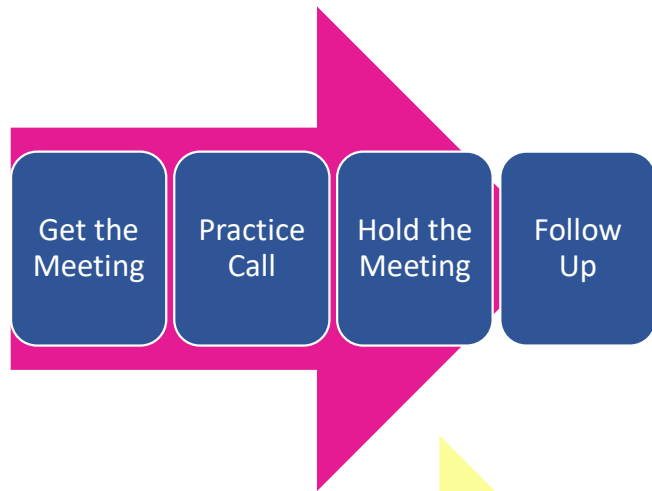


- Constituent Acts as Host (5 Minutes)
 - 1-2 Lived Experience Stories (5-10 Minutes)
 - Professional Experience (5 Minutes)
 - FASD United Bill Update (5 Minutes)
- Back and forth conversation with the Staffer or Legislator is key!

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Legislative Meetings



Under Construction

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Get Others Involved

- Talk about the bill
- Post about it on your social media
- Invite others to policy meetings/weekly drop-ins
- Invite FASD United Policy staff to speak at a meeting in your state



Resources

- Resources
 - Websites
 - Weekly Policy Drop-in
 - Policy Staff
 - Facebook Group



4 Websites You Should Know to Help you Prep

www.FASDUnited.org

- Click on the Policy Tab  Under Construction

www.congress.gov

www.billtrack50.com

www.opensecrets.org

Weekly Policy Drop-In's

- Quick Zoom Check-in for Questions on FASD Respect Act Advocacy & Legislation
- Weekly on Wednesdays at 1pm Eastern via zoom www.fasdunited.org/events
- Cancelled on weeks when the policy forum is held
- Cover all policy issues – not just federal and not just The FASD Respect Act

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Policy Staff

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Facebook Group

FASD Respect Act Champions



FASD and Education

Legislation on FASD and IDEA



State Report Cards

- Data Collection has Begun
- Measuring:
 - Education Access
 - Diagnostic Capacity
 - CAPTA Response
 - Eligibility for Disability Services
 - Support Availability
 - FASD “friendly/unfriendly” legislation



A close-up photograph of a computer keyboard. The focus is on a single, bright blue arrow-shaped keycap pointing upwards, which stands out against the surrounding dark grey keycaps. The text "State Updates" is overlaid in white, sans-serif font across the center of the blue keycap.

State Updates

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Together, we can do this.



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