

Ten Guideposts For MAKING OR CHANGING LAWS

1. WHO!

- | *Who wants change?*
- | *What are they willing to do to make change happen?*
- | *What level of time and resource commitment can they offer?*

2. WHAT IS THE PROBLEM?

- | *How did the problem first come up?*
- | *Has research been done to understand the problem in its entirety?*
- | *Do the WHOs understand the problem completely?*
- | *Do they still want change?*

3. THE VEHICLE THAT WILL DRIVE THE CHANGE

- | *Which core worker or workers will make the change?*
- | *What structure will he/she/they function out of?*
- | *Single individual*
- | *Informal discussion group, formal Steering Committee*
- | *Corporation, Political Fund, Non-profit Corporation*
- | *What communication system is used to fuel onward movement?*
- | *Bi weekly or weekly conference calls*
- | *Physical meetings*
- | *Public meetings with public speakers*
- | *Who makes decisions?*
- | *One individual*
- | *Majority*
- | *Consensus*

4. TASKS FOR THE CHANGE VEHICLE!

- | *Rhythm/routine way of functioning and communicating and educating each other*
- | *Research to understand legal problem and problem in its entirety*
- | *Drafter of potential solutions*
- | *Identified Leadership or decision-makers or group coordinator*
- | *Database management for tracking supporters*
- | *Media Liason and writer*
- | *Legislative Districting to target districts*
- | *Administrative support for conference calling, conferences, meetings*
- | *Fundraising and Accounting*
- | *Historical Record Keeper and minute taker*
- | *Lobbyist*
- | *Legal consultant to discuss changes*
- | *Volunteer consumer lobbyists, guidance and support*
- | *Community outreach networker and coalition builder with other organizations*
- | *Publications, Newsletter, Press Release person*

5. FINDING A SOLUTION

- | *Research the problem and craft potential options*
- | *Educate leadership inner group about potential options*
- | *Take favorite option and herald it.*
- | *Keep other options private for future use and amendment discussions*

6. THE FUEL/RESOURCES THAT SUPPORT THE WORKERS

- | *Identify free resources, people and supplies available.*
- | *Volunteers, small businesses, community organizations, special skills.*
- | *Determine whether money is needed and for what.*
- | *How much money?*
- | *Where to donate?*
- | *Determine how money will be raised.*
- | *Who will lead fundraiser and account for funds?*

7. LEGISLATIVE ENTRY

- | *How will the legislature be approached?*
- | *Individual lobbyist?*
- | *Small executive group?*
- | *Whole steering committee?*

8. LEGISLATIVE CHAMPION

- | *Which legislators will sponsor, author, or move your idea?*
- | *Will they defer to you for being in charge of language?*
- | *Will they be able to stand up against severe competition?*
- | *How can you support them and have a close relationship with them?*

9. LEGISLATIVE COMMUNICATION SYSTEM

- | *What system will you have in place to know exactly what is happening at capitol?*
- | *Who will be at the capitol for you every day?*
- | *Who will decide on amendments?*
- | *Who will go to hearings?*
- | *Who will lobby the legislators?*
- | *How will the lobbyist keep in touch with core group?*
- | *How will consumers be notified when their voices are needed?*
- | *Who will draft samples for consumers to review to target the issues?*
- | *What system will be in place to keep the bill moving?*

10. CELEBRATION

- | *How will victories be communicated to everyone?*
- | *Who will celebrate when a bill passes?*