

# Be an Advocate

## Prepare Your Elevator Speech

**Feel confident** when you spread the word about what you are advocating for! **Be prepared** with a short pitch to spark curiosity and be ready to knowledgeably answer follow-up questions. You'll have many opportunities to talk about the bill you are supporting and why it's important to you. Make sure you're ready to make the most of them.

- **Have a few GO TO conversation starters:**
  - *Unsolicited Lewds*
    - If indecent exposure is a crime on the streets and on the computer why is it not a crime on a person's phone?
    - 53 percent of young American women and 37 percent of young American men have been sent unsolicited explicit material while online (Pew Research).
    - Individuals under 18 are protected from unsolicited lewds. What changes once a person is over 18?
  - *Universal Income*
    - The idea of providing a basic income to all members of society goes back centuries. The 16th century English philosopher and statesman Thomas More mentions the idea in his best-known work, Utopia.
    - In February 2019, 125 residents of Stockton, CA received a monthly stipend of \$500.00. Two years later the study revealed that the stipend allowed more participants to reduce income volatility, ease stress, help pay unexpected expenses, and pay down debts.
    - When families receive a monthly basic income, school enrollment and attendance are positively impacted.

cont.



- *Equal Rights Amendment*
  - 97% of Americans say it is somewhat or very important for women to have equal rights with men in this country.
  - 78% of Americans specifically favor adding the 28th Amendment (Equal Rights) to the Constitution.
  - 168 constitutions in the world guarantee gender equality and so should ours.
  
- **Make it personal:** Give an overview on why you care about NWPC-VA's policy. Tell a personal story regarding the issue.
  
- **Present a call to action:** Share how friends and family can get more information, invite the person to join NWPC-VA's policy team, or ask the person if he or she wants to receive NWPC-VA's newsletter.



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