



Legislative Advocacy

How to Contact RI State Senators

There are five ways to reach a State Senator:

1. Senate Voicemail
2. Messages with the Senate President's Office
3. Listed Phone Numbers
4. Committee Rooms
5. Email

1. Senate Voicemail

All Senators Voicemail can be reached by calling the Senate President's Office

- Using a touch tone phone dial 401-222-6655
- An attendant will take your call and forward you to your selected Senator's voicemail
- If calling after normal hours, you may leave a message on the general Voicemail and it will be forwarded to your Senator on the following day.

If you're not sure who your State Senator is, visit the *RI Citizens for the Arts* action center:

<http://bit.ly/9d3Zfw>

2. Messages with the Senate President's Office

For almost any information regarding Senators, hearing or State House functions, you can call the Senate President's Office at 401-222-6655, and if they cannot answer your question they can refer you to someone who can.

The only exception to this is if you want information on specific legislation, in which case please refer to another part of this manual regarding legislation information on Bills, Acts or Resolutions.

3. Listed Phone Numbers

Senators may provide a work and/or home phone number for public access. You can find this information through the *RI Citizens for the Arts* action center: <http://bit.ly/9d3Zfw>. Visit their profile and click on CONTACT to see what phone number they provide.

The number provided may be a separate answering machine and number that an individual Senator sets up specifically to take legislative related calls. However, sometimes this is their residence number, so please extend them the courtesies you would in calling any other business person.

4. Committee Numbers

Particularly if a Senator is the Chair or Vice Chair of a legislative committee, messages can be left with the clerk of that committee at the number listed for the committee itself. This can be particularly useful if you are having difficulty reaching a Senator but you know they have a committee meeting that same day.

If you do not know the number for a committee room or cannot refer to a list, simply call the Senate President's Office at 222-6655 and ask for the committee you are trying to reach.

Keep in mind that there is not always someone to answer the phone in these rooms, and that it is best to call after 1:00 PM when the clerk is more likely to be at their extension.

5. Email

To contact any state senator via email enter:

sen-[senator's last name]@rilin.state.ri.us

So, for example, if you wish to send an email message to Senator Dan Connors, send it to: sen-connors@rilin.state.ri.us

You can also send an email to your senator through the *RI Citizens for the Arts* action center: <http://bit.ly/9d3Zfw>. Just look up the state senator you wish to reach, click the 'Contact', and then click the hyperlink to 'Contact Sen. xxxx'. It will then give you options to complete a specific action alert, or compose your own message.

And, please, always share feedback on your outreach to lawmakers with *RI Citizens for the Arts* to help inform our advocacy efforts.

www.ricitizensforarts.org