

Post-Election Engagement: *SET THE TONE AND MAKE AN INTRODUCTION FOR MEMBERS OF THE 116TH CONGRESS*

This check list will help you start on the right foot with your elected officials before they are sworn-in on Capitol Hill.

Now is the time to reach out and build relationships that will provide dividends throughout the 116th Congress. AFBF has partnered with the Congressional Management Foundation to provide our members the suggestions below to help maintain relationships with returning members of congress and establish strong working relationships with freshmen legislators from your state.

What you should do:

- Send a congratulatory note to your Members of Congress for winning their election.
- Send a personal note to key congressional staff - mention you look forward to working with them in 2019 and beyond.
- Confirm committee assignments for your congressional delegation. Many Members of Congress change subcommittees, committees, or assume leadership roles.
- Post a message to Twitter and Facebook about their new assignments or supportive comments toward agriculture.

Do you have a Freshman Member of Congress?

- Keep track of staff hires and reach out to build relationships with the Chief of Staff, Legislative Director, and Press Secretary (Don't forget the scheduler, too!).
- Make note of their being sworn into office and if they are making a tour of the district.
- Check out their official website and sign up for e-newsletters and alerts.
- Schedule an introductory meeting with the new staff to go over key legislative issues.
- Offer to host a farm tour in the district/state for legislators and staff.