

“Voter Voice” in Arkansas

The Arkansas Hospital Association (AHA) is committed to advocating on their membership’s behalf in Washington and Little Rock. They have been able to do this effectively using volunteers from their member hospitals utilizing “Voter Voice.”

“Voter Voice” is used in two ways:

The first is for AHA to send an email requesting that our legislators be contacted regarding a particular bill. We are provided standard language to communicate so that all we have to do is point and click to send an email to the appropriate person.

The second is for the volunteer to decide whether you want to use the same message to send to several legislators or congressional delegations. For example, you can create your hospital’s specific message and have it faxed or emailed.

“Voter Voice” is a great tool when large numbers of volunteer or hospital employees participate. Arkansas hospital employs thousands of people and currently there are 5,944 volunteers in the Arkansas Hospital Auxiliary Association.

We have had a number of successes utilizing “Voter Voice.” However, one particular success which we are extremely proud of, was persuading our legislators to pass Medicaid expansion (now known as Arkansas Works). To pass this legislation required a 75% vote in both the House and Senate. Success was achieved because of the united efforts of hospital employees and the volunteers of the Arkansas Hospital Auxiliary Association.

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