

## APRO Congressional Grassroots Instructions

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If you have never met with or contacted an elected official you may be intimidated by the process and politics of the U.S. Congress. But in reality, the U.S. Congress is there to listen and help you. You will find the political process to be easy and rewarding because congressional members and their staff want to learn about the businesses in their districts and the people they represent.

### **Grassroots Meeting Objective:**

The objective of these meetings is to introduce yourself and your rent-to-own business to your legislators in the House of Representatives and Senate. Brief them on how your business works, the customers you serve and the value your business provides to your community and the local economy. If any issues or legislation regarding rent-to-own develop, let them know that you are the constituent to contact.

### **Meeting Personally With Your Members of Congress and/or Their Staff:**

Please follow these steps to communicate with your Congress members' offices.

- Step 1:** Identify your (1) [U.S. House of Representatives](#) member and (2) [U.S. Senators](#) and their Washington, D.C., telephone numbers. If you need any assistance, please contact APRO Deputy Executive Director Richard May.
- Step 2:** Telephone the three offices to schedule a meeting using APRO's [Congressional Meeting Request Instructions](#).
- Step 3:** Submit in writing your meeting request using APRO's [U.S. Senator Meeting Request](#) and [U.S. House of Representatives Meeting Request](#) forms.
- Step 4:** When each Congressional meeting is confirmed, send the meeting information to APRO via the [Online Meeting Confirmation](#) form.
- Step 5:** Review APRO's [Conducting a Successful Congressional Meeting](#) document.
- Step 6:** After your meeting, submit your [Record a Meeting Summary](#) form online and be prepared to follow up with the Congressional office if needed.