

*TWGGA MEMBER*  
*VineRoots*  
**ACTION PACKS**

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**TWGGA LEGISLATIVE ACTION DAY IN AUSTIN**





## *INTRODUCTION*

This series of TWGGA Member Action Packs is designed to engage TWGGA members in legislative advocacy on behalf of the wine and grape industry. Each member can choose as few or as many of the individual activities they would like to conduct to contribute to this overall industry effort. Members may select to host elected officials at their winery/vineyard, to raise funds for candidates or officials, to educate officials on industry needs, and/or to participate in our legislative day at the State Capitol in Austin.

To some degree, this is the culmination of all the local activity you have undertaken during the election cycle—going to the Capitol, visiting with your local elected official, talking to them about issues of interest to the wine and grape industry, and inviting them to the TWGGA reception later that evening.

While this is not the end of your involvement, getting successfully to this point of time and making an impact with your elected officials is one of the long-term goals.

If you have done your job leading up to this, your discussion that day won't be the first time the official has heard about the issues in which you have an interest, hopefully just a "reinforcement" of previous discussions.

Once we have our date for the TWGGA Legislative Action Day, make your appointments with your Representative and Senator as soon as possible. At this time of year, their schedules fill up quickly. The staff may require that you submit your request via email. This has become a common practice, so don't be concerned. Take the time to talk to the scheduler, and remember to follow up within a week or so if you have not yet received your appointment time. They are very busy, so a gentle reminder is perfectly appropriate.

At the conclusion of the day, plan on attending the TWGGA viticulture and enology reception event usually held in the Capitol Extension. This is a social highlight of the legislative session and is always well attended.

### Action Steps

- On the day of the appointment, come prepared. Be on time and have enough of the written material to leave behind several copies for the member and staff.
- Don't be concerned if your meeting with the member turns into a meeting with a staff person. At this time of year that is common as well. This is where it pays off if you have gotten to know and visited with the official during the campaign season about your issues of interest. If that is the case, this is merely an important follow-up.
- Regardless, present your case in a clear and concise manner, have your presentation down to around 5 minutes or so. The person you meet with will have had a dozen similar meetings before yours and will have a dozen more after.
- Make your points, and don't offer a lot of chitchat, unless the staff person or elected official wants an extended visit.
- Get in, make your point, and get out.
- Leave your contact information so that if there are questions in the future, they know how to get in touch with you.
- If possible, get the contact information of the staff person you visit with. This person is often the staff person handling your issues and can become a key contact in the future.
- Invite them to our TWGGA reception that evening and leave behind an invitation.
- Thank them for their time and move on to your next appointment.

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Take the time to fill out the appointment contact form to report the results of your visit to the TWGGA staff. **THIS IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT!** This lets TWGGA staff know the results and if there is any needed follow-up to your visit.

**Supporting Materials**

**A. TWGGA LEGISLATIVE ACTION DAY APPOINTMENT FORM**

Please return this form to TWGGA HQ before your appointment so that we may coordinate activities.

**TWGGA LEGISLATIVE ACTION DAY APPT FORM**

DATE	<input type="text"/>
TWGGA MEMBER	<input type="text"/>
OFFICE HOLDER	<input type="text"/>
	<input type="text"/>
APPOINTMENT TIME	<input type="text"/>
NOTES:	<input type="text"/>
	<input type="text"/>



B. TWGGA LEGISLATIVE ACTION DAY AFTER ACTION REPORTING  
FORM

Please return this form to TWGGA HQ as soon as possible.

TWGGA LEG ACTION DAY AFTER ACTION REPORT FORM

DATE	<input type="text"/>
TWGGA MEMBER	<input type="text"/>
OFFICE HOLDER	<input type="text"/>
WITH WHOM DID YOU MEET?	<input type="text"/>
RESULTS	<input type="text"/>
	<input type="text"/>
ANY NEEDED FOLLOW-UP?	<input type="text"/>
	<input type="text"/>





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