

# TSHA 2010 DISTRICT LEGISLATIVE DAY



**Calling all TSHA members!**

**Friday, May 7**

**Register NOW**

**TSHA needs YOU to be active!**

**Celebrate May is Better Hearing and Speech Month  
Visit with YOUR legislators at their home offices**

**When:** Friday, May 7, 2010

**Where:** Your legislators' home office

**Who:** YOU!

**Why** should you volunteer?

- Develop legislators' awareness of who we are, what we do, and how SLPs and Auds impact the citizens of Texas.
- Open lines of communication to allow for more effective dialogue during legislative sessions as well as during the Sunset Review process.

**What** we will provide for your visit?

- All Texas legislators will be receiving a gift in the mail from TSHA before your visit.
- When you register to attend, TSHA will provide you with talking points for relationship building and a "leave behind" for your legislators.
- TSHA will provide you with a report form so you can provide us with feedback from your visit.

**How do I get started?**

- Go to [www.txsha.org](http://www.txsha.org); under Legislative Information, click on TSHA Grassroots Action Center: Votervoice.
- Login in if you are already registered in Votervoice. If not already registered, click on "New Users Click Here."
- Check or complete the necessary profile information.
- Click "Continue."
- You will see a directory of your elected officials; identify your STATE elected officials.
- Find your senator and representative.

- Click the “Profile” link next to your senator and representative to find your legislators’ district office addresses and phone numbers.

### **How do I let TSHA know I am participating in this event?**

- Email Jennifer Hardina at [jennifer.hardina@txsha.org](mailto:jennifer.hardina@txsha.org). Please provide Jennifer with the names of the legislators you will be visiting. This is crucial so that TSHA can track which senators and representatives will receive a visit.

### **How do I set up an appointment with my legislators?**

- Call the legislators “district” office to make an appointment.
- Please attempt to schedule an appointment for Friday, May 7; however, if you are unable to schedule a visit for this date, any day the following week will be beneficial. Scheduling your visit will help ensure that you can actually meet with your legislators in their home offices.
- If they are not available, it is still important for TSHA members to meet with the local staff and educate them about issues relevant to SLPs and Auds in Texas.

### **What do I do and say during my visit?**

- Your primary goal is to introduce yourself to your legislators. As a constituent, YOU matter and YOU make a DIFFERENCE.
- Educate your senator and representative about our professions utilizing the “Talking Points” you will receive after you register.
- Establish yourself as a resource and encourage your legislators to contact you in the future if they have questions pertaining to the professions of SLPs and Auds.

### **How do I end my visit?**

- DO NOT forget to **take a picture** of you and your group with your legislator.
- Please tell your legislator that their picture may be added to the TSHA website and included in an article in the next Communicologist. A completed photo release is necessary.

### **Are there any follow-up activities with the legislator?**

- Following your visit, send a handwritten “thank you” note to your legislators for taking the time to meet with you.

### **How do I get credit for participating in TSHA’s 2010 District Legislative Day (DLD)?**

- THSA’s legislative team is eager to receive your feedback. Following your visit, please complete the “report form” and email it to Jennifer Hardina at [jennifer.hardina@txsha.org](mailto:jennifer.hardina@txsha.org). Also, please include the photos from your visit. The feedback and insight from your visit will provide TSHA with vital information. A photo release will be attached to the Talking Points that you receive. Please have each

individual in your photo complete a release. These photos may be used in TSHA publications.

**What are the incentives for participating in TSHA's 2010 DLD?**

- Once you have completed the "report form," ALL participants will be entered in a raffle drawing for a chance to win one of the following: a Flip Video Camera, Free 2011 Convention Registration, or TSHA gift basket!