

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; 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. 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. 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!