

A GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS PRIMER

Lobbying and political activity

Five things to know before you advocate for Providence St. Joseph Health

- **We coordinate:** All lobbying and advocacy must be managed through government affairs. In this way, we speak with a coordinated voice and ensure we comply with legal requirements.
- **Call before you act:** Before advocating on behalf of any among our family of organizations, contact your local government affairs leader.
- **Legal compliance:** Failure to comply with strict federal and state requirements can result in serious consequences for our organization.
- **Policy compliance:** Providence St. Joseph Health has a policy and guidelines on lobbying and political activity that applies to caregivers, volunteers and other representatives of our family of organizations.
- **Personal advocacy:** The information on this page does not apply to your personal advocacy away from work. Our family of organizations support caregivers' personal choice to become politically engaged on their own time.

Know our policy and guidelines

[Email us](#) for a copy of our *policy on lobbying and political activities*, and our *guidelines*. The policy and guidelines will help you comply with all legal requirements and they apply to everyone in our family of organizations: Providence Health & Services, St. Joseph Health, Covenant, Facey, Hoag, Kadlec, PacMed, St. Joseph Heritage Healthcare, and Swedish.

Call before you act

Caregivers and representatives across Providence St. Joseph Health, including volunteer board members, must speak to their local government affairs leader before contacting any elected or appointed government officials on behalf of our organization or partners. [Find your contact](#).

Why and how we take a position

- **We are a respected voice:** Providence St. Joseph Health is among the largest not-for-profit health systems in the country. Our positions on health care policy and other social justice issues are important to leaders at the federal, state and local levels of government.
- **We work together:** It is vital that we raise our voice in an organized and coordinated way, and that our advocacy supports our collective commitment to compassionate care and service, especially for those who are poor or vulnerable.
- **We analyze proposals:** Each year government affairs evaluates hundreds of legislative and regulatory proposals using a discernment process that could involve: ad hoc or standing workgroups; an internal advisory/steering committee; guidance from senior leaders; or in-house expert groups.

Contact government affairs

You can reach the government affairs team at psogovernmentaffairs@providence.org.