

Suicide Prevention Coalition of Colorado and Advocacy at the Capitol in 2014:

Current legislative initiatives



Susan Marine, Ph.D.
Chair of SPCC Advocacy Committee
smlkma22@comcast.net 303-818-2778

Objectives of Today's Conversation

- Learn about the legislative process
- Become an effective grassroots advocate
- Understand how to use a Legislative Alert
- Review SPCC's two legislative priorities for 2014

Special Guest:

Senator Linda Newell

- Vice-Chair of Health & Human Services
- Joint Technology Committee
- Judiciary
- Member of Legislative Council

Phone: 303-866-4846

E-mail: linda.newell.senate@gmail.com

The Mission of the State Suicide Prevention Coalition of Colorado (SPCC):

To reduce suicide and
its impact for all
Coloradans through
advocacy,
collaboration, and
education



ADVOCATES ~ EDUCATES ~ COLLABORATES

Major priorities for SPCC in 2014

- SB-o88 – Concerning the Creation of the Suicide Prevention Commission
- Requesting more funding for the Office of Suicide Prevention from the Joint Budget Committee

Find your Senator or Representative

- Project **Vote Smart** provides free, unbiased in-depth information about current officials, candidates, issues, legislation, and voting.

<http://votesmart.org>



The Legislative Alert

- Description of the bill
- Why this bill is important to SPCC
- Action needed
- What to say
- Who to contact

What to say

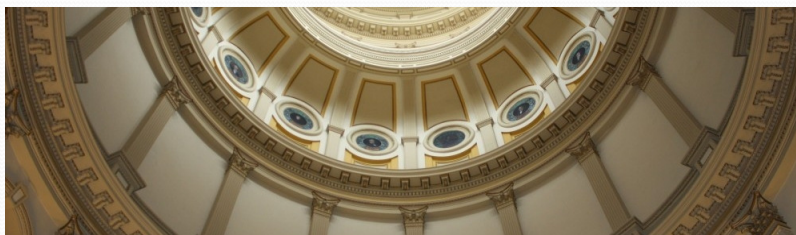
- **Identify yourself** - your name, organization you represent (if any), town from which you are calling.
- **Explain why you are calling** - I am calling to support SBo88.
- **State your position** - briefly state why you support this bill.
- **Ask them to vote for the bill.**
- **Provide** further information if asked or get back to the person with more information.
- **Thank** the person for their time and consideration.

Testifying before a Committee

- Arrive early to sign in
- Prepare your comments beforehand –address one or two points and be concise (time can be limited to 3 minutes)
- Address the Chair and Members of the Committee, tell them where you live and who you are representing
- Bring copies of you testimony for all committee members
- Be prepared to wait as there are sometimes unexpected delays

For more information about the General Assembly

www.leg.state.co.us



Suicide Prevention Coalition of Colorado



If you would like to become more involved
with SPCC Advocacy
Contact Susan Marine

swdkm321@comcast.net

303-818-2778

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION TODAY!