GRASSROOTS ADVOCACY 101

WHAT TO DO WHEN YOU GET A FORM LETTER BACK!

As we are all doing our part to reach out to our Representative in the US Congress to co-sponsor HR 2729, some are reporting receiving a form letter email in response. Sometimes the form letter is not even on the right topic! You have the right to push back and ask for a commitment! Here are some tips on how to do that:

1) Thank the office and the member for reviewing the materials you sent and for taking a look at HR 2729;

2) Explain that you appreciate that the Member will consider your opinions when the legislation is considered by the House; BUT

3) RESTATE your company/fair's name/location and the impact to your agricultural programming and overall fair's success this bill must accomplish. State the fact that while you appreciate the update on the legislation, you asked for the Member to support the bill for your fair/company and the carnival industry by signing on as a Cosponsor of the legislation, and since the letter you received did not answer your question, you would like to ask once again;

4) "Will Representative XXXXXX support us by signing on to H.R. 2729 today? And if not, what other information would be helpful to him/her to have to fully review whether or not he/she could support the bill. If the answer is "no," ask if they could please explain the Member's position to you.

5) Please report back any intel to your organization as soon as possible.

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