

# Taken from MCAA's Grassroots Program Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) Sheet

What is the purpose of these meetings? What should I be saying?

Meeting with your elected officials is an effective way to educate them on how the courier industry currently operates. The purpose of these meetings will be to introduce your business and the industry to your elected representatives. Explain how your business impacts the local economy and how important House Act 1844 is to the industry and your business. Mention other industries that, because of your company, are able to operate more efficiently.

What happened to trigger the need for these meetings?

The courier industry is an integral part of the Massachusetts economy, providing transportation of packages, medical supplies, bulk material, and documents among businesses, corporations and medical organizations. Most elected officials have absolutely no knowledge of what occurs in a typical company.

Section 148B of Chapter 140 of the Massachusetts General Law, as amended by section 26 of Chapter 193 of the acts of 2004 will cause a complete collapse of most of our business models in regard to the use of Independent Contractors. We need everyone support of House Act 1844 to be able to continue operating in the state of Massachusetts.

The government has also been cracking down on the courier industry in a number of ways. State agencies are not providing clear and consistent regulatory guidance and most of the pending state legislation on independent contractor reform dismantles the current and historical system. For the first time in a decade, there have been congressional hearings discussing independent contractor misclassification.

Are these meetings for companies that use mostly independent contractors or employee drivers?

Every courier and messenger company should participate in this grassroots program. The ideal outcome of these meetings will be for our elected officials to have a better understanding about how our industry operates, the importance we play in the Massachusetts economy and their support of House Act 1844.

Should I meet with just my House of Representatives or my Senators as well?

You should try to meet with all of your Members of Congress to educate them on the courier industry.

Should I meet with my Member of Congress from just where my company headquarters is located? What about my branch offices and home address?

Some of you have company headquarters in one congressional district, branch office in other districts, and then live in another district. Meet with as many elected officials as you can. The more courier companies that speak about this issue, the more weight our issues will carry.