



NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

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Accepting Volunteers

Member Web Sites

Submitted by:

Allan Smith, Nevada

Legislative member web pages or web sites take on a variety of forms from state to state. While a couple of states, Connecticut and Oregon, appear to host and maintain fairly extensive pages for their members, several states that host extensive pages leave the maintenance of the pages up to the members or the caucuses. A few states, including Arizona, New York and Tennessee, allow for member press releases in addition to the basic information.

More common today is for states to allow links to member or caucus maintained member web sites. Though, some states will provide hosting of member pages or web sites, the maintenance of these pages or sites, as well as policies and oversight are left to the caucuses, house leadership or an oversight committee.

The attached table (see inside) provides a breakdown of member page elements by state. Where houses may differ in a state, I have combined the information, though made specific references in some cases where it seemed appropriate. The columns, for the most part, should be self-explanatory. But, I would like to clarify a couple of the columns. The columns headed "Host Member Web Sites" and "Link to Member Web Sites" are meant to indicate that "full" member web sites are accessible from the legislative web site, either by being hosted or by being linked from a member list or the basic member information pages. "Basic Member Info Pages" are pages that are hosted on the legislative web site and contain some or all of the elements listed in the columns within that category—biography, contact info, committee assignments, etc. The column headed "Policy or Apparent Practice" is there to indicate that I either found or was informed that a policy exists relating to member web pages/sites, indicated by the entry "Policy," or that, by viewing the member pages, I determined that the "Practice" indicated that a policy may be in place.

