

January 1, 2026

Dear Friends,

On behalf of the General Committee of FCNL, we invite you to engage your meeting or church in worship and discernment about our legislative priorities for the 120th Congress, which begins in January 2027.

From its inception, the Friends Committee on National Legislation has relied on meetings and churches to ground our work in the concerns of Friends. Our process of asking Friends to consider, every two years, which issues should be the focus of their lobbying organization in Washington, DC, connects our advocacy strongly to the testimonies and values of Friends.

As your meeting, church, or other Friends group takes part in this priorities-setting process, please first review FCNL's policy statement, *The World We Seek*, available at <https://www.fcnl.org/LegislativeStatement>. Your discernment on which specific issues are rising to the priority level provides guidance to FCNL staff on where to focus their lobbying attention for the next two years. The following questions can then guide your identification of the issues of greatest importance to you.

- How are Friends called to influence our government today?
- What issues should be the priority for our advocacy efforts?
- Where is the Spirit leading us?

The enclosed documents, Guidelines for Participating in the Priorities Process, and FCNL's website, fcnl.org/priorities, provide information and materials to guide you. **Please submit the outcome of your discernment no later than April 17, 2026.**

Participation of Friends in meetings and churches across the country is essential to making our Quaker lobby who and what we are -- from the issues we work on to the way we focus on building relationships and looking for that of God in everyone we talk with. In politics today, the kind of approach that FCNL takes is increasingly important and increasingly rare. We know that it makes a difference, but we can't do it without you.

The Policy Committee is ready to support you if further guidance is needed. Requests for help can be directed to Noell Krughoff (nkrughoff@gmail.com; (317) 512-1091) or Scot Drysdale (scotdrysdale47@gmail.com; (603) 643-3989). Additionally, on February 12, 2026, from p.m. Eastern, we will be hosting a call to answer questions, connect you with others leading this process, and ensure you are prepared to share your group's priorities by April 17.

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In peace,

The FCNL Policy Committee

Lois Yellowthunder (co-clerk)	Northern Yearly Meeting
Noell Krughoff (co-clerk)	North Pacific Yearly Meeting
Gray Cox	New England Yearly Meeting
Sergio Mata-Cisneros	Intermountain Yearly Meeting
Walter Long	South Central Yearly Meeting
Pamela Minden	Northern Yearly Meeting
Diane Keefe	New York Yearly Meeting
Scot Drysdale	New England Yearly Meeting
Ann Barnhart	New Association of Friends
Jane Hiles	Southern Appalachian Yearly Meeting & Association
Kelsey Swindler	Wilmington Yearly Meeting
Sa'ed Atshan	Philadelphia Yearly Meeting
Tim Cullen	Baltimore Yearly Meeting

Enc:

Priorities Discernment: Resources for Centering
Guidelines for Participating in the Priorities Process
FCNL Legislative Priorities for the 119th Congress (2025-2026)

Scan this QR code to go to FCNL's Policy Statement, or visit

<https://www.fcnl.org/LegislativeStatement>

