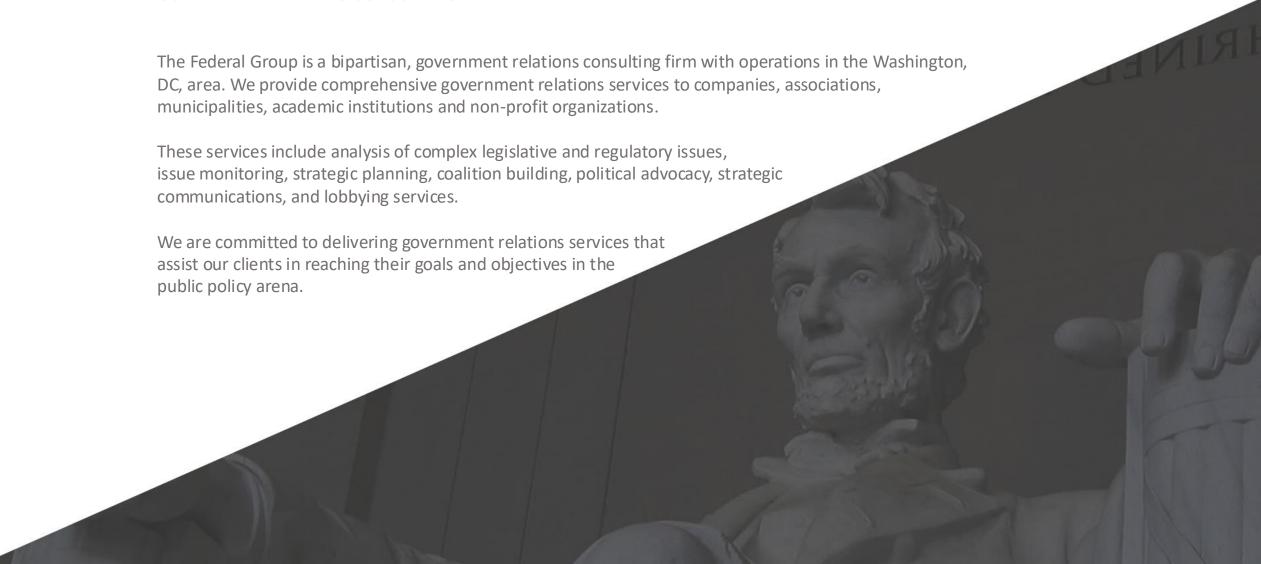


# THE FEDERAL GROUP

#### **GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS CONSULTING**



#### MEET THE TEAM



#### **Patrick Cooney - Founder and President**

Patrick founded The Federal Group, Inc. in 1999 with a focus on impacting health care policy. His experience working with Congress for more than 30-years provides clients unique insight into the federal health policy landscape and unparalleled access to decision makers.



#### **Taylor Turner - Director of Government Relations**

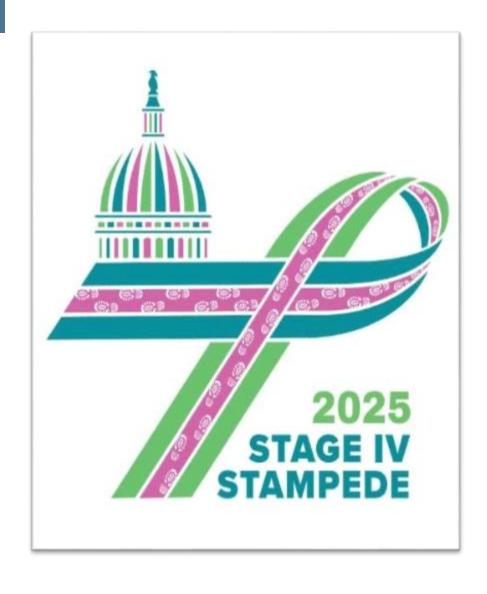
Taylor Turner is a seasoned professional with a diverse background in health care. She has experience representing clients across a range of healthcare issue areas, including aging, disability, and rare disease. Prior to joining The Federal Group, she served as a Senior Researcher in the Department of Health Policy and Management at The George Washington University and as a Senior Project Manager at MagView, a mammography information system software company.



#### Michelle Artz. Vice President

Michelle brings a wealth of diverse experience in government affairs and advocacy. Prior to joining the firm, she served as the Director of Government Affairs for the American Nurses Association (ANA). She also spent two and a half years working in Alliance Development at the Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers Association (PhRMA).

## **STAMPEDE SUMMIT: DAY 1 TRAINING**



#### **METAvivor Advocacy Training:**

- Preparing for the Visit
- Legislative and Regulatory Priorities/ Talking Points
- Government Shutdown Guidance
- What to Expect when Visiting Congressional Offices
- Navigating Capitol Hill
- Post Visit Follow-Up

## PREPARING FOR YOUR VISIT

When preparing for your visit to Capitol Hill, it is important that you:

- Review your talking points in advance
- Practice your personal story (short & impactful)
- Remember: you are the expert of your own experience
- Dress professionally and comfortably (lots of walking!)
- Bring: Water and patience (Due to shutdown, security lines may be long)

# METASTATIC BREAST CANCER ACCESS TO CARE ACT (H.R. 2048)

Introduced only in the House, we are seeking reintroduction in the Senate

- Lead Cosponsors of H.R. 2048: Rep. Andrew Garbarino (R-NY), Rep. Kathy Castor (D-FL), Rep. Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA), Rep. Judy Chu (D-CA)
- What the bill does:
  - Waives the 5-month waiting period for Social Security Disability Insurance
  - Waives the 24-month waiting period for Medicare
  - Would allow people with MBC to immediately access to treatment and coverage
  - Bipartisan support—over 150 co-sponsors in the House

#### ASK:

- If House Representative hasn't already, ask for the Representative to CO-SPONSOR the bill.
- In the Senate, we are looking for the Senator to SUPPORT reintroduction of the bill in the Senate.

# **CANCER DRUG PARITY ACT (H.R. 4101)**

Introduced only in the House, we are seeking reintroduction in the Senate

- Lead Cosponsors of H.R. 4101: Rep. Glenn Grothman (R-WI), Rep. Suzanne Bonamici (D-OR), Rep. Gus Bilirakis (R-FL), Rep. Brian Fitzpatrick (R-PA), Rep. Joe Morelle, (D-NY) Rep. Doris Matsui (D-CA), Rep. Julia Brownley (D-CA), Rep. Gwen Moore (D-WI), Rep. Donald Davis o(D-NC), Rep. Sharice Davids (D-LS), and Rep. Joe Wilson (R-SC)
- What the bill does:
  - Requires oral cancer medications to have the same out-of-pocket cost as IV treatments
  - Ensures affordability and access to the medications patients need to survive
  - Bipartisan support—currently 17 co-sponsors in the House

#### • **ASK**:

- If House Representative hasn't already, ask for the Representative to CO-SPONSOR the bill.
- In the Senate, we are looking for the Senator to SUPPORT reintroduction of the bill in the Senate.

## **MODERNIZING THE SEER CANCER REGISTRY**

The Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results (SEER) Program provides information on cancer statistics, specifically cancer incidence and survival, in an effort to reduce the cancer burden among the U.S. Population through identifying trends, evaluating prevention and control efforts, and support research.

- SEER only tracks de novo MBC patients (6–10% of cases are de novo)
- Most patients who develop MBC after early-stage breast cancer are not counted
- Covers only 45.9% of the U.S. population
- Without complete data, research funding and policy decisions are misdirected
- Modernizing SEER = better data, better research, better care

ASK: Supporting the modernization of cancer surveillance systems like SEER

# INCREASING FEDERAL RESEARCH FUNDING FOR MBC

- Only 13% of breast cancer research funding focuses on metastatic disease
- Yet, almost all breast cancer deaths are due to MBC
- Ask for increased funding needed for:
  - NIH: at least \$51 billion (increase of \$5 billion)
  - ARPA-H: \$1.5 billion (same funding level)
  - DoD Peer-Reviewed Breast Cancer Research Programs: restore \$150
    million (was \$150 million in FY24 and is \$130 million FY25)

## WHAT TO EXPECT IN CONGRESSIONAL OFFICES



- Typically meet with staff, not the Member (staffers are the key decision shapers!)
- Meetings usually 15-30 mins
- Stay respectful, concise, and focused on the key talking points. Keep our advocacy effective and unified by using the provided talking points for meetings.
- Share your story and connect it directly to the policy issues
- End with a clear ask

We have created a script for the talking points to help guide your discussions.

### YOU ARE THE EXPERT



- Most members of Congress and staff have little insight into what it means to have metastatic breast cancer.
- No one can know challenges you and your families are facing better than you. Who better to let policymakers know what access to treatments have meant, and what new research breakthroughs could mean to you and those battling MBC in the future?
- They **need** your voice as they make decisions that that impact health care quality and access, vital data collection, and the focus and trajectory of research.
- They may be the elected officials, but YOU are the expert.

# YOUR STORY, WITH OUR SUPPORT

#### **Printed Resources:**

- Issue fact sheets
- Talking points
- Social Media Ideas
- Hill Map
- Appointment schedule

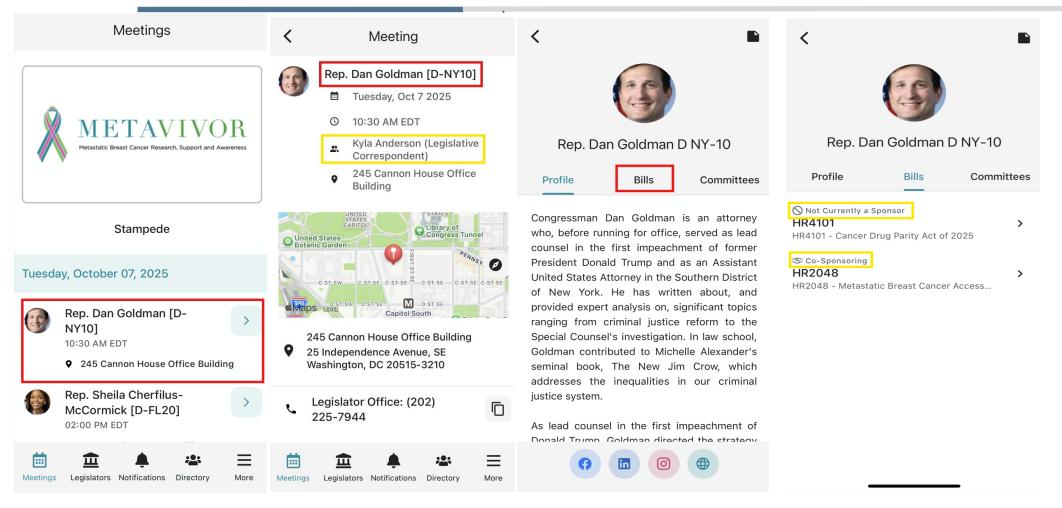
#### App

Shows real-time changes to your appointments, and includes...

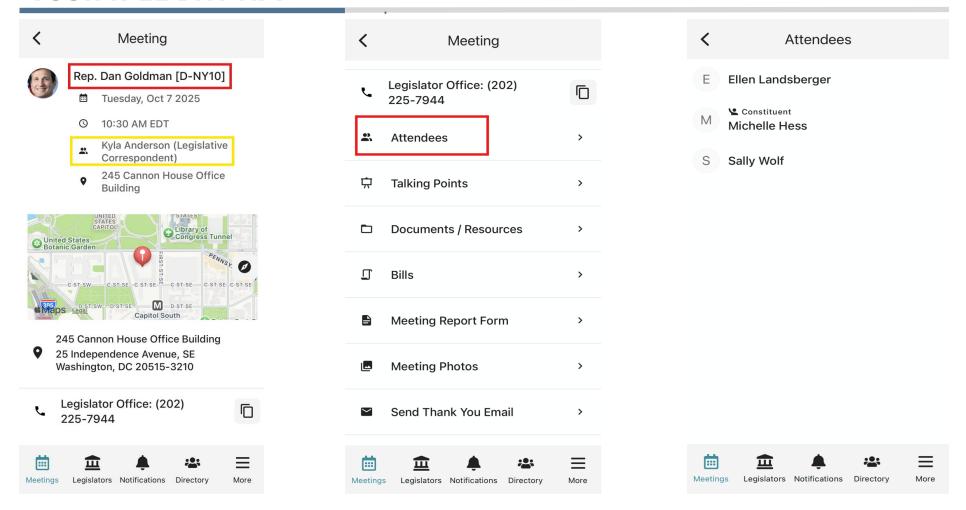
# YOUR STORY, WITH OUR SUPPORT

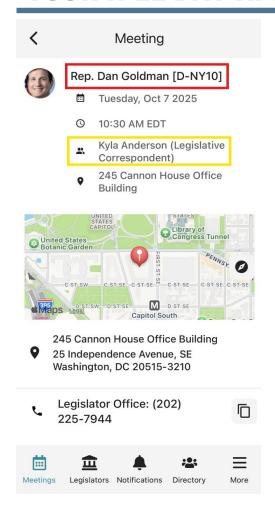
#### **Hill Day App Features:**

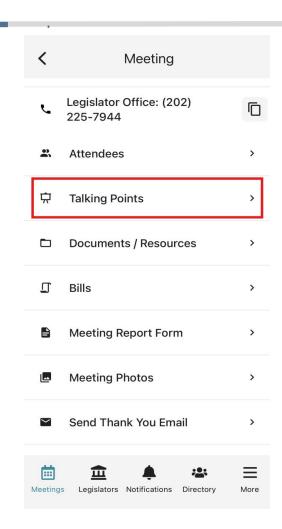
- View your meeting schedule with real time changes.
- Identify advocates who are in your meeting group.
- Map to meetings with GPS functionality.
- Reference talking points.
- View leave behinds and email them to congressional staff.
- Access Legislator bios, voting records, news, social media pages, and more.
- Research bills, including bill status, current sponsors and co-sponsors.
- Post about your meetings on social media with pre-populated templates.
- Upload meeting and event photos.
- Receive automated reminder notifications.
- Use a form to share feedback on your meetings with us
- Send thank you notes to congressional staff.



We will be there to support you every step of the way.









"This bipartisan bill would waive the 5-month waiting period for Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) and the 24-month waiting period for Medicare for people with MBC. Time is not on our side, people with MBC need immediate access to treatment and coverage when they are diagnosed."

**Talking Points** 

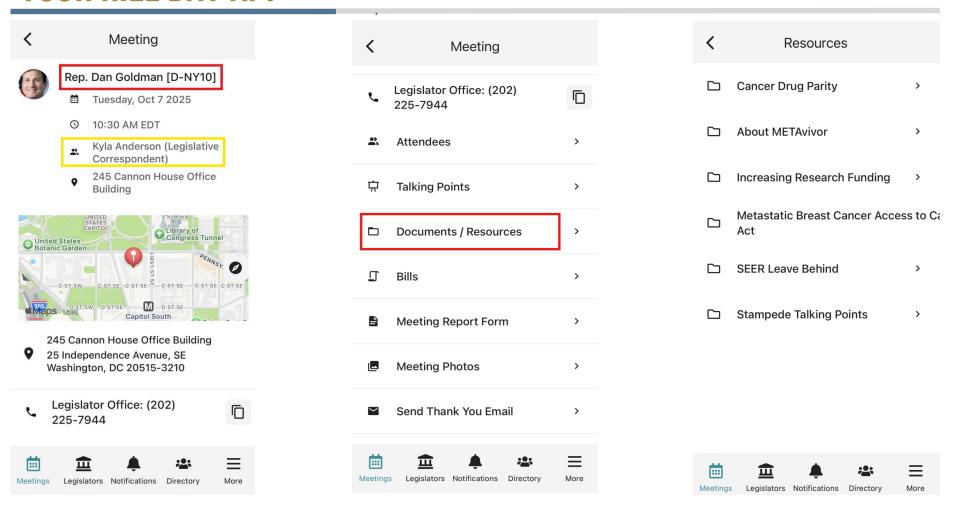
# The bipartisan Cancer Drug Parity Act (H.R.4101, seeking reintroduction in the Senate):

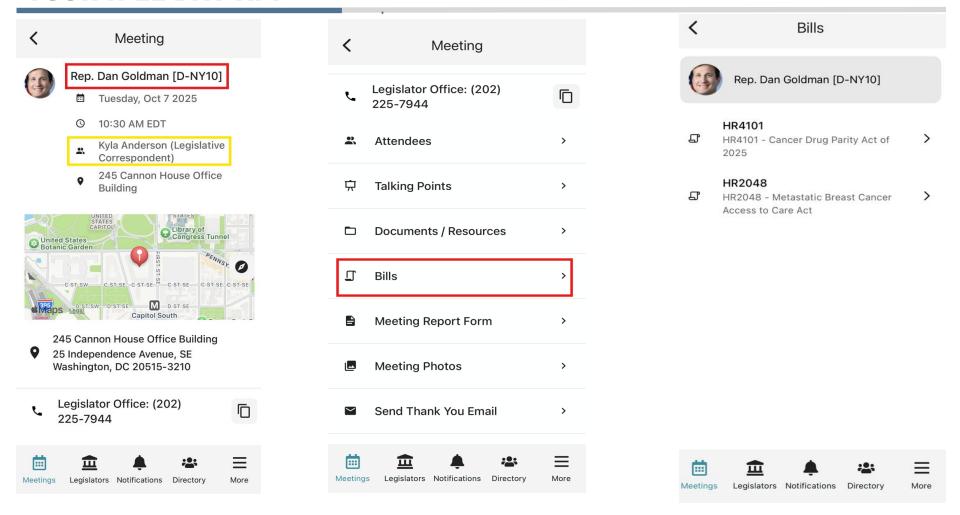
"This bill would require that out-of-pocket cost for oral cancer medications be the same as intravenous treatments. Many people with MBC rely on oral therapies to manage their disease, but without parity of pricing, the out-of-pocket costs for oral medicines can be unmanageable, even with insurance."

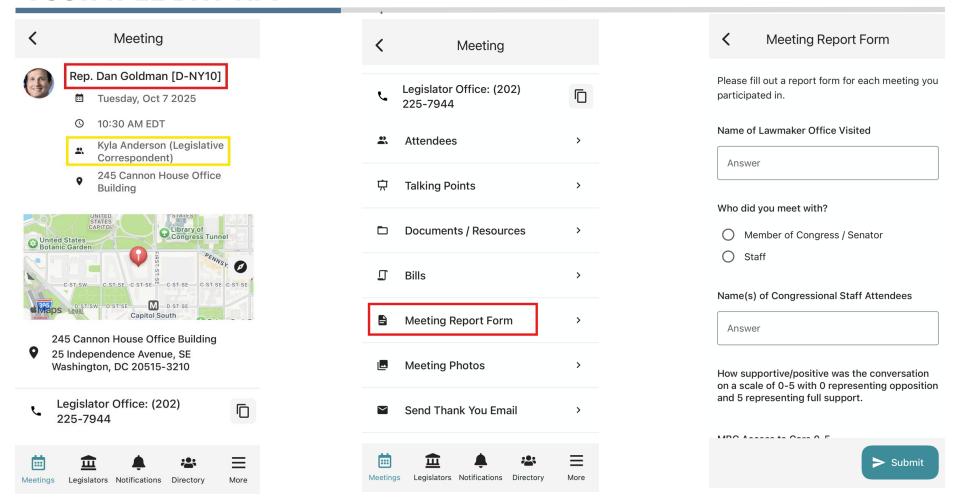
#### Increasing Federal Research Funding for Metastatic Breast Cancer:

"Metastatic breast cancer research is severely underfunded, even though almost all breast cancer deaths are due to Stage IV disease. Right now, only about 13 percent of all breast cancer









## **GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN GUIDANCE**

- Some meetings may move **virtual**, others remain **in-person**. There is always the possibility that meetings may cancel. In the event this happens, we will work to communicate this ASAP.
- Not all entrances will be open, expect longer wait times for entry arrive early
- **Food services:** cafeterias should be open in the Senate. In the House, only food services in the Longworth building will be open.

METAvivor and The Federal Group staff will be on site to assist with navigation and logistics

## UNIFIED MESSAGING & SOCIAL MEDIA

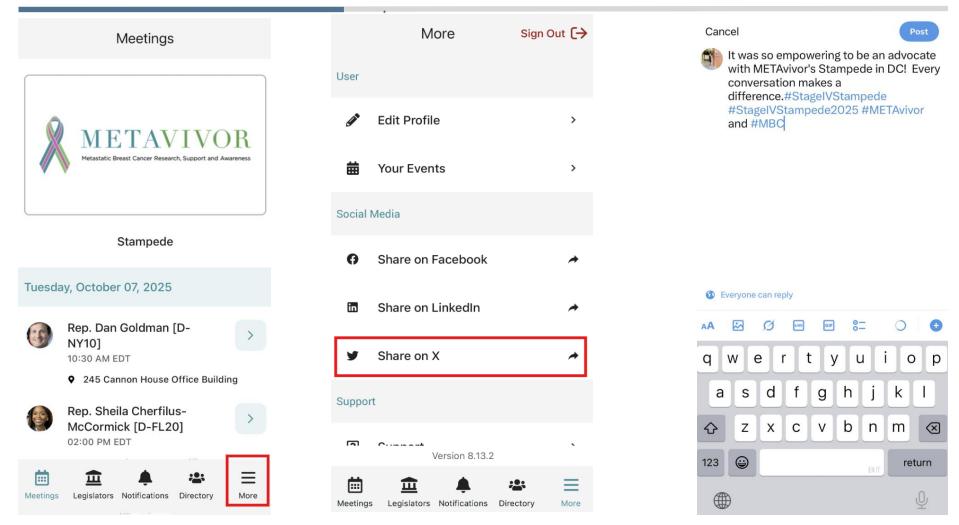
 We want to let Congress know we were here. Take photos and post about your visits on social media using METAvivor's official hashtags!!!

> #StageIVStampede #StageIVStampede2025 #METAvivor #MBC

- You can post to Facebook and Twitter/X through the app and we have prefilled the hashtags; For X we were able to offer a sample post you can customize.
- Avoid unrelated shutdown or partisan commentary—keep our advocacy message clear.

**Unified Voices = Stronger Impact** 

### **SOCIAL MEDIA**



We will be there to support you every step of the way.

## **NAVIGATING CAPITOL HILL**

- **Security:** Due to the government shutdown, only **one entrance** is open for each building, which will mean longer wait times.
- Use tunnels between House buildings, and between Senate buildings.
- Public wifi access:

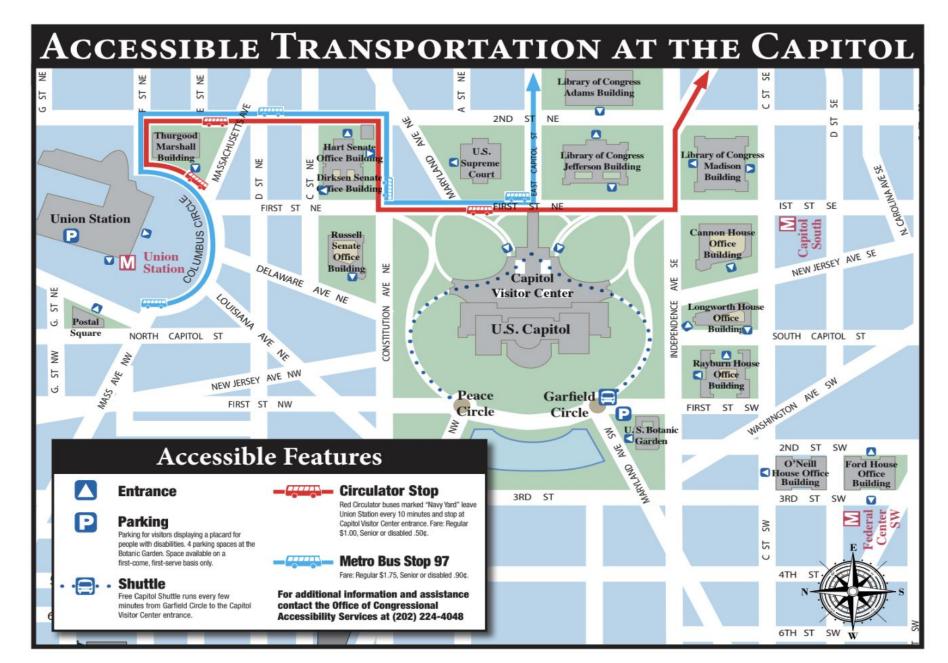
House: HousePublic

Senate: 119congress

- For virtual meetings between in-person visits:
  - Cafés or quiet hallways are available.

We will provide a map of Capitol Hill and information on cafés.

## **NAVIGATING CAPITOL HILL**



### **NAVIGATING THE HOUSE**

#### OFFICE OF THE SERGEANT AT ARMS



House Office Building Access (Lapse in Appropriations)

#### **VEHICLE BARRICADES**

1. New Jersey Ave & Independence Ave

Open 24 Hours

2. Washington Ave & C St SW

5:00AM—9:00PM (or 30 mins after adjournment)

#### GARAGE ACCESS

3. Rayburn HOB C St Garage

Open 24 Hours

4. Cannon HOB Garage

7:00AM—11:00PM (or 30 mins after adjournment)

5. Upper D St/East Underground Garage

5:00AM—11:00PM (or 30 mins after adjournment)

6. Ford HOB Garage (including Virginia Ave Barricade)

5:00AM-7:00PM

7. O'Neill HOB Garage

5:00AM-7:00PM

#### RHOB LOBBY ACCESS

#### Rayburn HOB Lobby 1 & 3

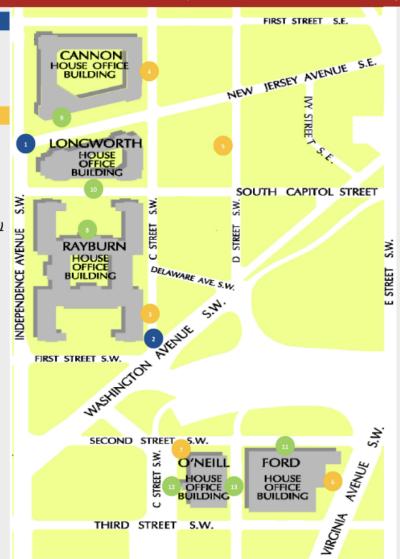
5:00AM-11:00PM (or 30 mins after adjournment)

#### Rayburn HOB Lobby 2 & 4

7:00AM-7:00PM (or 30 mins after adjournment)

#### Rayburn HOB Lobby 8

Open 24 Hours



#### **BUILDING ACCESS**

8. Rayburn Horseshoe Door

7:30AM-7:00PM (or 30 mins after adjournment)

9. Cannon NW Door

7:30AM-7:00PM (or 30 mins after adjournment)

10. Longworth South Capitol St Door

Open 24 Hours (Staff Only between 8:00AM — 10:00AM Daily)

11. Ford 2nd St Door

Open 24 Hours

12. O'Neill C St Door

Open 24 Hours

13. O'Neill D St Door (HRCCC Only)

7:00AM-7:00PM

#### East Underground Garage Pedestrian

5:00AM—9:00PM (or 30 mins after adjournment)

#### Cannon NW Garage Pedestrian

7:00AM—11:00PM (or 30 mins after adjournment)

#### **NAVIGATING THE SENATE**

- **Security:** Only **one entrance** is open for each Senate building, which will mean longer wait times.
- The Senate has not provided a map reflecting the changes; therefore, our team will be available during the day to help navigate entering the Senate.

#### POST-VISIT FOLLOW-UP

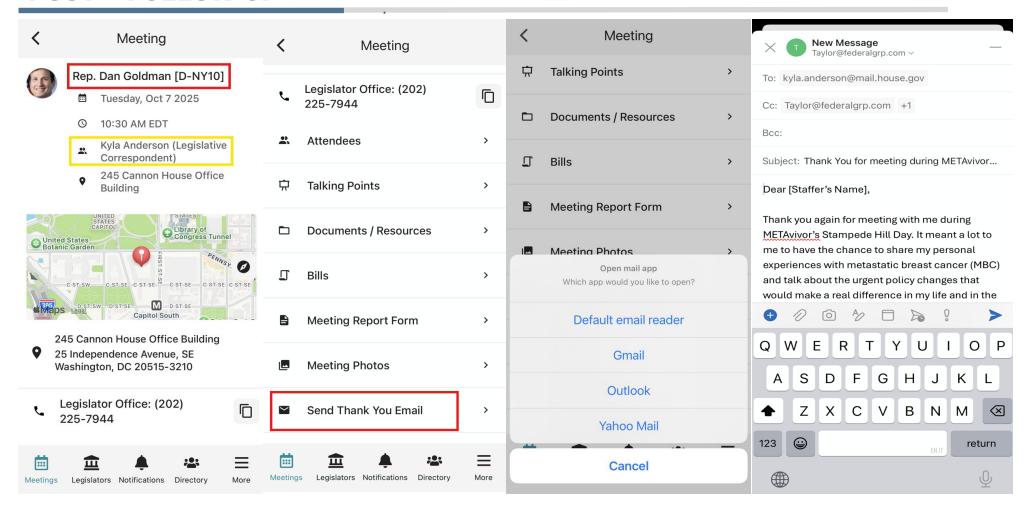
#### Thank you email:

- Can send directly through the Advocacy Day App.
- Email is pre-populated with key asks—personalize it with your story.

#### Meeting follow-up form:

- Fill out in the app after each meeting.
- Helps METAvivor track responses and determine the best follow-up with offices.
- Keep relationships alive: Hill Day is just the start of advocacy!

### POST - FOLLOW UP



#### **CONTACT US**

For any questions and issues that may come up during the Hill Day, please contact us at:

#### **The Federal Group**

Michelle Artz: michelle@federalgrp.com | (202) 641-4321

Taylor Turner: <a href="mailto:taylor@federalgrp.com">taylor@federalgrp.com</a> | (240) 272 -1562

#### **METAvivor**

Alpha Lillstrom Cheng: <a href="mailto:alpha@metavivor.org">alpha@metavivor.org</a> | (301) 787-0877

Wang Shein: wang@metavivor.org | 214-883-4013

Crystal Moore: <a href="mailto:cmoore@metavivor.org">cmoore@metavivor.org</a> | (240) 601-6698

# QUESTIONS

