

## CONGRESSIONAL OUTREACH PLATFORM: STANCE APP

### What is Stance?

Calling Congress is one of the most effective ways to make your voice heard. Overflowing voicemails and busy staffers mean that constituents often spend hours waiting to deliver a 1-minute message. That's why Stance was created.

Stance sends your message directly to your representative's phone and Twitter handle, and also posts them on [takeastance.us](http://takeastance.us) for others to be inspired. You can record your message anytime, anywhere with just a few clicks.

### How do I access Stance?

**Website:** <http://www.takeastance.us/>

**Download:** <http://bit.ly/TakeAStance> (iPhone) <http://bit.ly/2ncxixb> (Android)

**Twitter:** <https://twitter.com/TakeAStanceUS>

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/TakeAStanceUS/>

### How do I use Stance?

After downloading the Stance app onto your iPhone or Android device, it is only a few steps to record your message for your members of Congress and the app walks you through each step.

**Step 1:** Find your representatives.

**Step 2:** Pick the Congressional member you want to send a message to.

**Step 3:** Record both the intro and the message you want to send to your member. The intro information, which includes your name and address, is shared only with the member of Congress in order to verify you are a constituent. The app will play back both your intro and message recording for you to review before saving or it allows you to rerecord if you choose.

**Step 4:** Confirm if you want your messages made public.

**Step 5:** Repeat with all members that you want to send your message to by clicking on Contact other members at the top right of the screen.

### Sample Messages

**\*\*These are general messages that could be provided in addition to your program specific messages\*\***

- America Forward Coalition organizations are working in communities across the country and we believe that non-defense discretionary funding is essential to economic recovery and growth, adequate public health response, resources for our nation's schools and colleges, needed programming to help skill-up our workforce, activities for addressing our eroding infrastructure, and for ensuring our national security.

- Despite assertions about the lack of evidence to support some of the non-defense discretionary spending, there are many positive examples of the outcomes achieved from investments in areas such as: early learning programs, after and summer school programming, work study opportunities, workforce development and job training, and national service.
- We strongly support a refocusing of government funding to what works. To do this, however, we need to support funding for innovation and evaluation, the use of tiered-evidence approaches to targeted federal funding to programs that have greater evidence of effectiveness, and the inclusion of performance-based funding provisions to build the evidence base to ensure we know what is working and what does not before making drastic cuts to important programs that directly impact millions of children, youth, and adults across the country.