

WSPTA Legislative Advocacy Day in Olympia on Feb. 26th

## Virtual Focus Day – 2 Minute Online Email

**Participate virtually!** You don't have to travel to Olympia to participate or to help make Focus Day more effective. All it takes is internet access and two minutes.

Mark your calendar to take ACTION from the comfort of your home, library or office. Send safe, verified emails expressing your opinion to each of your legislators.

**WSPTA provides an easy-to-use, on-line legislative action center called *CapWiz*.** Each CapWiz topic comes with background info and a requested action on a specific issue -- use either the template provided or your own words to say exactly what you want in an email directly to your own legislators. Share your hard-earned and informed opinions -- tell your elected representatives what you want done. Armchair advocacy has never been easier or more effective!

**Step-by-Step Instructions to the 2-Minute Email** – Go to:

<http://capwiz.com/wastatepta/state/main/?state=WA>

1. Enter your **Street Address** and/or **Zip Code**, then click “**GO**”
2. Select (click on) a bold topic under the **Take Action!** header
3. Read the intro then scroll down to the “**Take Action**” message section
4. Change or add to the “**Editable text:**” as you wish
5. Fill in “**Your Closing**” and “**Your Name**” fields as you wish it to appear
6. Fill in “**Your Contact Information:**” required fields; other fields are optional
7. As wish, check the additional boxes at the bottom (CapWiz is even quicker hereafter if you leave the “*Remember Me*” box checked)
8. Type in the displayed **CAPWIZ-XZ Authentication** code in the provided field
9. Click “Send Message” – done!

You then have the option to forward a link to CapWiz up to 6 friends – share it!

**A few member-submitted suggestions for Focus Day virtual participation:**

1. After the kids are off to school, visit the WSPTA website to use the CAPWIZ tool -- call or email friends to remind them to send CapWiz emails to their legislators.
2. Get together with friends at your local library or internet café. Bring a laptop, take turns sending CapWiz emails while enjoying a morning coffee.
3. The night before or day after Focus Day visit the WSPTA website to send an email using CapWiz. Make it a family educational activity by including the kids.

Read on to find out how using CapWiz  
can become even *easier!*

## Get Connected to WSPTA Advocacy

With timely *CapWiz Action Alerts* that come to you

*PTA = Parents Take ActionAlerts!*

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You can receive timely updates to participate in what's happening in Olympia by signing up for PTA legislative "**Action Alerts**" – **CapWiz comes to you.**

While we welcome every member and advocate to attend WSPTA's annual advocacy **Focus Day** in Olympia, our efforts will be more successful if all members *take action* by contacting their legislators via email (or telephone).

And while **CapWiz** lets you send a quick one-time email directly to your senators and representatives, **Action Alerts** are CapWiz emails you can receive directly from WSPTA several times a month during the legislative session (January-March). Each comes with background info and a requested action on a specific issue using either the template provided or your own words to say exactly what you want.

The **Action Alert email provides a link** to the CapWiz site where in 1-2 minutes you can lend your input to a timely issue.

**Your participation is important** – when each member takes the 2 minutes to respond to an Action Alert, the collective response is very influential!

Sign-up online with WSPTA in under 2 minutes at:

[www.wastatepta.org/programs/Legislation/listservs/actionalert.htm](http://www.wastatepta.org/programs/Legislation/listservs/actionalert.htm)

The '08 WA Legislative Session begins mid-January!

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