



**AIDS
FOUNDATION
CHICAGO**

**ADVOCACY DAY 2024
FRONTLINES:
A SESSION FOR RETURNING
CHANGEMAKERS**

Aces Lira, Manager, Policy & Advocacy

TRAINING TAKEAWAYS

- + **Refresher on the legislative process**
- + **Ways to generate and build advocacy**
- + **Supporting Advocacy Day 2024**

WHAT HAVE BEEN YOUR EXPERIENCES WITH ADVOCACY?

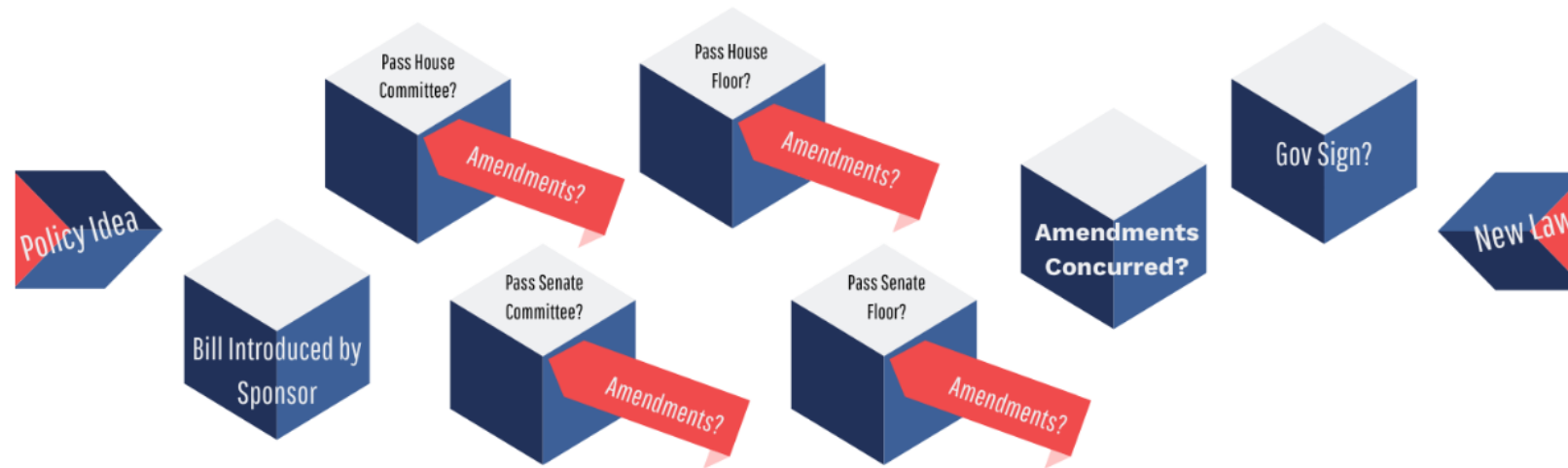
Share the memories.

SUCCESSFUL ADVOCACY AND BUILDING UP

Every move counts.

HOW A BILL BECOMES LAW IN IL:

- **Public Acts need 30 / 60 / 1**
- **30 Senate Votes, 60 House Votes, 1 Governor Signature**

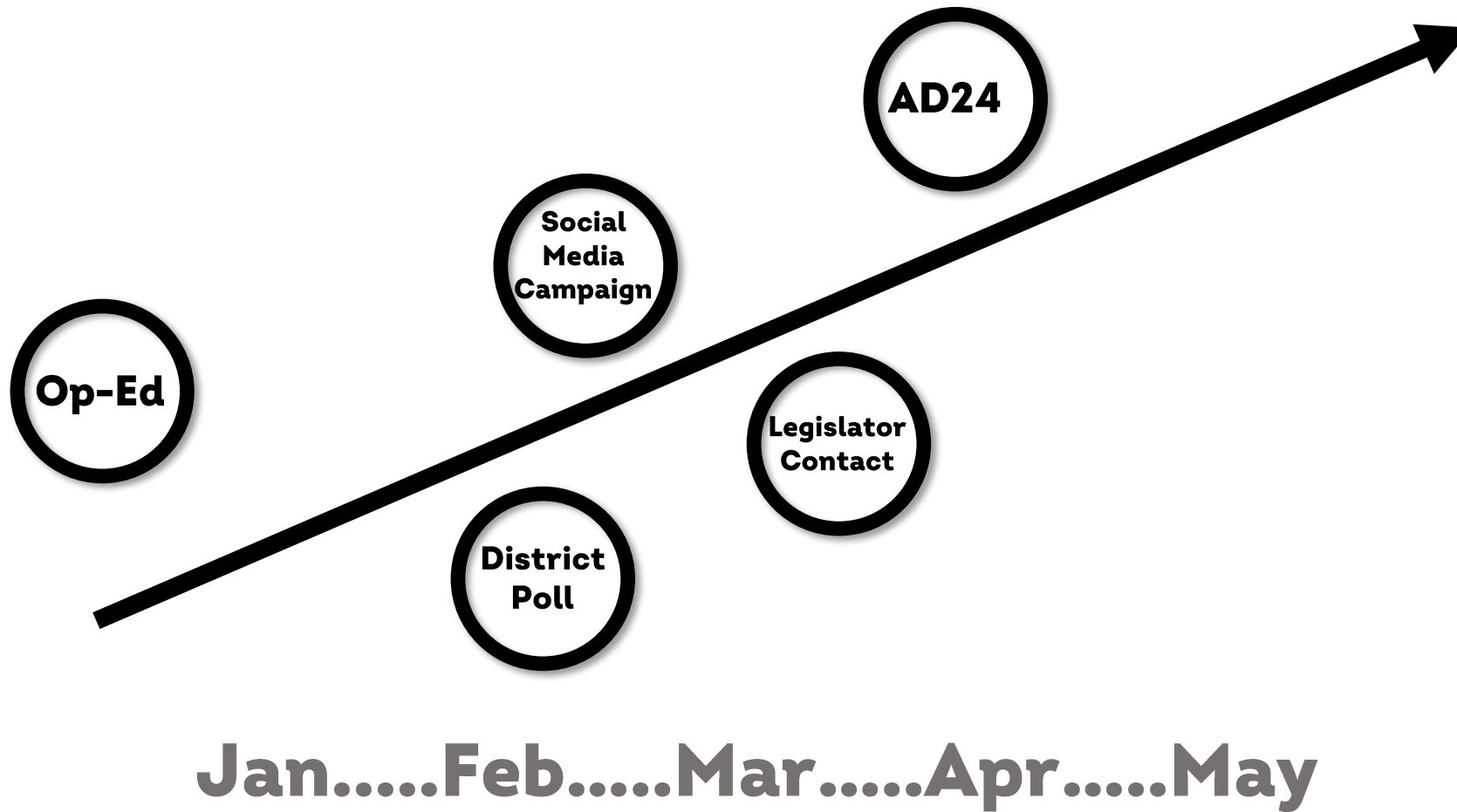


January... February... March... April...

May 31...

(Restore Justice Illinois, 2020)

ESCALATING ADVOCACY



EFFECTIVE MESSAGING

- **Pick the issue(s) that matter most to you—you don't have to be an expert on everything.**
- **Be authentic and honest.**
- **Craft a personal narrative that resonates with you and is relevant to your lead issue(s).**
- **Be persistent.**



STRENGTHEN THE MESSAGE

- **Data and Accurate Information**

- Providing a scale or reach to an ongoing problem can be convincing.
- Consider your sources (ex. GTZ-IL Dashboard)

- **Testimony**

- Stories remain with us and someone will always remember how they felt from a conversation.



LEGISLATOR RELATIONSHIPS

- **Clear role of representing the best interests of your district.**
- **Consider the full person.**
- **Monitor opportunities to engage with them and speak on district concerns or issue areas.**
- **Subscribe and follow.**

SEEKING SUPPORT

- **Strength in numbers!**
- **District leaders and spaces; faith-based, youth groups, chamber of commerce, neighbors etc.**
- **[Intersectionality] We don't live single issue lives, worth reaching out to other advocacy groups.**

THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS

How does a bill become a law?

ROLE OF COMMITTEES

- **Committee Assignments**
- **Committee Hearings: Subject Matter or Legislation**
- **Committee votes can help signal to other legislators the nature of the bill**
- **Providing oral or written testimony**
- **Witness Slips**
 - Prior to committee hearings the public can signal their support or opposition to a bill with witness slips.
 - Legislators can see the list of supports or opponents and alerts that community members are watching or endorsing the bill.
 - Sparks negotiation to a bill or helps add pressure.

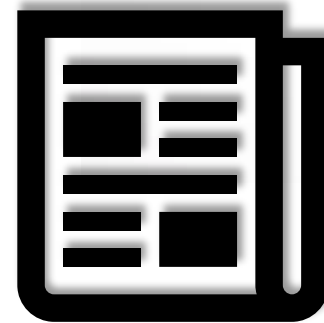
NAVIGATING ILLINOIS GENERAL ASSEMBLY ONLINE

- **Powerful state legislation resource (www.ilga.gov)**
 - Bill Search
 - Legislators Information
 - Committee Schedules and Members
 - Information by Chamber (House and Senate)
 - Audio/Video Feed
 - Capitol Telephone Directory
 - Legislator Lookup
 - Archives
- **As advocates, ILGA.GOV can help you follow your bill and get familiar with your legislators**



POLITICAL CLIMATE OF ILLINOIS

- **Current events and public debates influence what occurs in the State Capitol.**
 - Public Safety Concerns
 - National Response to Migrant Crisis.
 - Governor's Priorities
 - Workforce Shortage
 - Local News
 - November General Elections



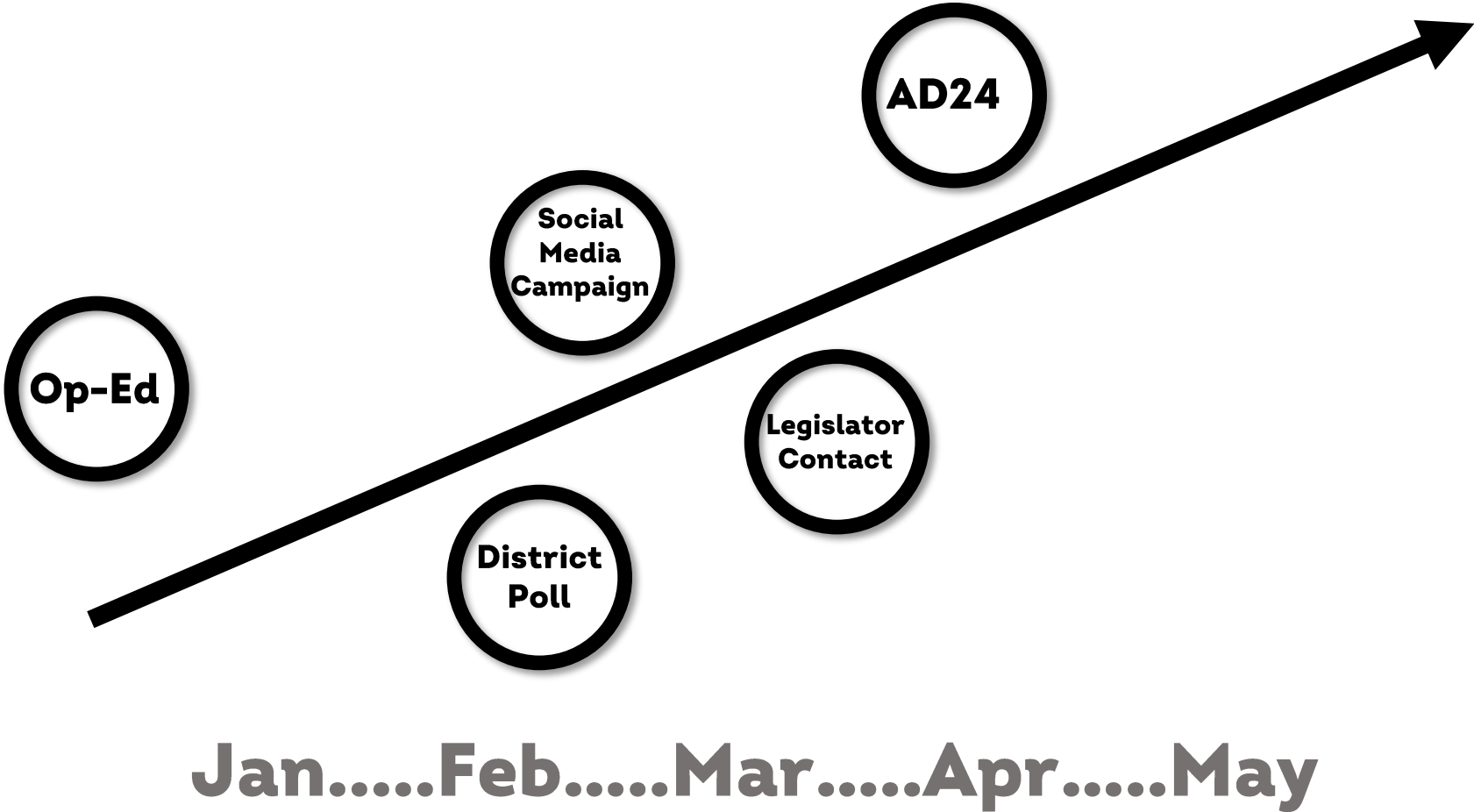
ADVOCACY FOR LEGISLATION

- **Direct outreach to decision makers**
 - Office calls
 - Letter/Email writing
 - Meetings
- **Engagement through committee hearings**
 - Addressing the committee/testifying
 - Submitting witness slips
- **Advocacy Day 2024! (April 10th)**
- **Voting**

TYING IT ALL TOGETHER

Let's Brainstorm!

ADVOCATING TOGETHER



UP NEXT...

- **Overview of AFC's 2024 Policy Priorities**
March 27, 2024 5:30pm
- **Storytelling for Change**
April 3, 2024 5:30pm
- **Advocacy Day 2024 Logistics**
April 8, 2024 5:30pm

Register for these upcoming AD2024 Webinars Here:
<https://www.aidschicago.org/advocacy-day/>

Have you Pledged to Participate in this year's Advocacy Day (April 10th) yet?? <https://p2a.co/vsz0wgp>

Advocacy Day!!! April 10, 2024 (Virtual All Day!)

Q&A

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