



North American Midway Entertainment

Blake Huston

The eyes of the Fair industry are now upon us, and we shall have their praises, if happily we are the instruments of saving ourselves from the Tyranny that faces us. We are left with no choice but a brave resistance, this is all we can expect. We must resolve to conquer or watch our industry slowly dissolve – the future calls upon us for a vigorous and valiant exertion, let us therefore rely upon the goodness of the Cause.

Over the course of the past couple of weeks, I have spent countless hours on the phone and sending emails to our colleagues and legislators. This is a period of time where MEMBERS of the OABA, IAFE, and NICA need to step up to the plate. The organizations themselves are not going to get this across the finish line, it's going to be the members, plain and simple. If you don't have the (2) page document, request it from us.

What should you be doing right now?

1. Be educated on HR-1787, it is very simple.
2. You have to make a **PHONE CALL** – emails are nice – **PHONE calls work best.**
3. **Call your own Congressman's office and ask them to support HR-1787**
4. **Call the events that you service and educate them on HR-1787 and its importance.**
5. **Call your events and ask if anyone on their board or anyone they know have personal connections in that area with their Congressman or Senators.**
6. **Provide them the 2-page document explaining HR 1787**
7. **Report any feedback to your appointed state chair, John Ariale or myself.**

In John Ariale's article he lists the steps to contact your Congressman or Senator, it is very easy, do NOT be intimidated if this is your first time calling - I remember my first time. When you call the D.C. office you will talk to a young staffer that is most likely in their early 20s. The initial call will take less than 5 minutes of your time; I personally called all 9 Indiana Congressional offices in 1 hour on a particular morning.

Some tips to follow while calling your legislator or the staff.

- **Tell them you are a Constituent, and/or you do business in their District and at what event(s).**
- **Try and make a connection between them and a particular Fair or Festival.**
- **Tell them how important a Carnival is to you and your event, and the financial benefits it has to the community and possibly the state, i.e. 4-H program.**
- **If they begin to bring up immigration, remind them, this is NOT an immigration issue.**
- **It is important to know that the P-visa category is an Entertainment visa and that is the industry we are in.**
- **IMPORTANT** – Ask the staffer if the Congressman would please review the bill, call you back with any questions, and co-sponsor the legislation immediately.
- **Send them the 2-page document explaining HR 1787**
- **Take notes of any person's name and their contact info, thank them for their time, report any information back to us.**

99% of failures come from people who make excuses. If you have not made contact with any of your legislators or their offices, now is the time. NOW, no more procrastination, the industry does not have the time for it. This is the turning point, let us therefore animate and encourage each other. ◀



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