

XXVII. AURA CENTER EMPLOYEE CONGRESSIONAL RELATIONS

A. BACKGROUND

It is the policy of AURA to adhere completely to the policy of the Federal Government, which forbids any reimbursement to AURA of all costs associated with attempting to influence Federal or state legislation by communicating with any member or employee of the Congress or a state legislature about the introduction, enactment, or modification of such legislation.

1. This prohibition includes communications with Congress or Congressional staffs seeking greater or different appropriations of funds to Federal agencies that support the activities of AURA.
2. The costs of seeking to influence legislation through preparing, distributing, or using publicity or urging members of the public to contribute to any lobbying effort or letter writing campaign are similarly unallowable.

B. GUIDELINES

1. Accordingly, to protect the integrity of AURA's funding, AURA Center employees may not engage in these activities on behalf of AURA Centers, on AURA Centers' time, or with AURA Centers' funds.
2. This policy does not limit or affect the right of any employee to communicate individually with any member or official of Congress or a state legislature in an attempt to influence legislation, as long as the employee does not purport to speak for or on behalf of AURA, acts on the employee's own time, and does not utilize any AURA funds.
3. This policy does not apply to responding to documented requests from a member or official of Congress for technical and factual presentation of information on topics directly related to the performance of any AURA contract through testimony, statements, or letters.