



# Government Relations

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## OVERVIEW

Our Government Relations Group is a multi-disciplinary practice group that provides clients the full range of government-related services in a variety of industries, including energy and telecommunications, financial services, health care, retail sales, real estate development, entertainment and manufacturing. Our attorneys combine analysis regarding legislative needs and research on pending legislative matters with highly selective, credible lobbying on these matters. By using state-of-the-art technology to keep abreast of pending legislation, we can make a quick, yet insightful, legal analysis of the impact of proposed legislation and its effect on your business goals. The firm's experience in a wide range of legal disciplines provides our government relations attorneys a thorough understanding of complex legislative issues.

Many of our attorneys have extensive experience in elected office and public service and provide their skills to all practice groups at AP&S. We combine our substantive legal and business experience in a diverse array of disciplines, issues and industries with our in-depth understanding of administrative, regulatory and legislative processes. We are recognized for effective and articulate promotion of our clients' interests and concerns.

## Areas of Concentration

- Legislation drafting/tracking
- Regulatory and administrative hearings
- Lobbying
- Representing state agencies
- Transportation

## REPRESENTATIVE MATTERS

### Legislative Matters

Members of our firm have served in elected leadership positions of the Rhode Island General Assembly (Speaker of the House and Senate Majority Leader), General Office (Lieutenant Governor), counsel to various legislative committees and their leadership, as well as counsel to Governors of Rhode Island. Additionally, several of our attorneys have served as chairs of state agencies and as general counsel to state agencies. By combining this extensive experience with strategically identified lobbying efforts, we maintain a highly-focused and conflict-reduced lobbying practice that has proven extremely effective for our clients. We have developed strong, credible working relationships with legislators and other key governmental officials, both at the state and federal levels.

In providing legislative representation to a client, we:

- track legislation, analyze and assess the impact on a client's business operations;
- attend legislative hearings;
- assist in the development and presentation of testimony;
- draft legislation or regulations; and
- meet with legislators and their staff members to represent the client's position and recommend possible solutions.

Our strength lies in our ability to understand complex issues and execute successful strategies for our clients. With our practical know-how and years of high-level government experience in Rhode Island, we bring a public policy perspective to the many challenges faced by our clients in today's rapidly changing business world.

## **Municipal Matters**

In addition to working with state legislatures, we have significant experience working with city and town governments. We have participated in a wide range of municipal issues, including land use decisions, real estate, tax valuations and major public/private infrastructure initiatives such as the privatization of waste water systems and the siting and construction of energy facilities and other high visibility projects.

## **International Network**

AP&S is the Rhode Island representative to a leading international association of independent law firms, the State Capital Law Firm Group. With the representation of one law firm located in each state capital, each Canadian province, and nation's capitals around the globe, the State Capital Law Firm Group provides a central source for the collection and dissemination of information and techniques about the practice of government relations law. As a result, AP&S is kept apprised of important developments nationally and internationally, which enables us to apprise clients of the political landscape based on first-hand information.

AWARDS

Rated Tier 1 Metropolitan "Best Law Firm" by U.S. News-Best Lawyer.

