



# Every WIPP Member Has A Voice!

## *10 Ways to Participate in Washington*

### 1. **Annual Survey**

To represent your interests to Congress, the White House, and Federal Agencies, WIPP surveys its membership annually to gain input on current policy issues. The survey tells us what your issue priorities are and how policy directly impacts your business. Our award-winning independent research firm, AllPoints Research, <http://www.allpoints.biz/>, hosts, tabulates and analyzes the data and conducts focus groups, detailed and micro surveys.

### 2. **Micro Pulse Surveys**

When hot-button issues arise in Congress,, testimony needs to be written, or policy positions need to be developed or refined, we turn to you first to seek your input via issue specific micro surveys.

### 3. **Economic Trend Surveys**

We depend upon our members to provide up-to-date information and policy reactions through focus groups, to identify economic trends, tell us which business sectors are experiencing growth or are experiencing challenges, outline opportunities for collaboration and help us to identify new tools and resources for business growth at local, state or federal levels

### 4. **Issue Committees and Councils**

Our issue committees provide support, member input, business knowledge and engagement on current issues. Committees meet once monthly via teleconference, occasionally in person or at specific target events (i.e. to present testimony before a Congressional Committee or to meet with Congressional staff to provide input on a specific issue). Current committees include: Access to Capital, Energy and Environment, Health Care, Procurement, Taxes/Regulations, and Technology and Telecommunications. WIPP Councils attend to the business of the organization, they are: Membership Council, Communications Council, Strategic Alliances Council and Coalition Partner Councils. WIPP's Diversity Committee engages with all committees and councils. All WIPP members are invited to participate in the committees or councils of interest to them.

### 5. **Ask the Advocate Calls**

Quarterly, via teleconference, WIPP conducts a briefing open to all members with our Government Relations team. At the briefing members receive an up-to-date policy report and are able to provide input as well as ask questions. These teleconference calls provide direct, interactive contact with our government relations staff.

### 6. **Instant Impact Teams**

State-based Instant Impact Advocacy teams connect WIPP members to each other, to local experts on critical topics and to US Senators and Representatives at their local state offices, thus ensuring that your voice is heard at home and in our nation's capital. Building strong relationships between members and elected officials is a primary objective for the local teams. Quarterly nationwide events provide up-to-the-minute information on issues, bring top policy-makers directly to you, and connect you with other teams across the country.

## **7. Website, Specialized topic –related calls and Action Alerts**

WIPP’s website, [www.WIPP.org](http://www.WIPP.org), is a comprehensive advocacy site. All current policy and member information is kept up to date, committee minutes and meeting notes are posted daily. Turn to the website always for the latest information. When something urgent comes up, requiring immediate input or action, WIPP will broadcast a request for information, host a special call, drive members to the website for further information, and when appropriate, issue an “Action Alert” to members. Action Alerts provide members the opportunity to contact their elected officials through our WIPP Advocacy Page on the website and to respond to a hot button issue.

## **8. Discussion groups/social media**

WIPP has an active blog and twitter, Facebook and Linked-in accounts which it populates with policy updates and information. Members are encouraged to contribute to these accounts.

## **9. The Democrat and Republican Small Business Political Leadership Teams**

The Democrat and Republican Small Business Leadership teams provide a vehicle for WIPP members to engage directly with state and national party platforms and party representatives. Any dues-payment member may join a team to meet and engage with other members on specific party-related activities.

## **10. Annual Legislative Meeting**

WIPP hosts an annual legislative meeting in Washington, DC. At the meeting members receive briefings, hold issue-related committee meetings, engage in a dialogue on issues with members, staff, and policymakers, and meet with their elected officials on the Hill.