# Help “Flip the Script” on Services for Older People who are Blind or Low Vision

The Aging and Vision Loss National Coalition continues to educate Congress about the need for Champions for Teddie-Joy’s Law, to strengthen/ improve the Older Americans Act, modernize the OIB, and streamline the federal role as it supports states to better serve older people through the Independent Living Services for Older Individuals Who Are Blind program (OIB).

Below is the script you can use to educate your members.

## Educating Congress Script--What Should You Do?

* Find the telephone contact information for the district offices for your Congressmen and Senators:
* [Find Your Representative | house.gov](https://www.house.gov/representatives/find-your-representative)

[U.S. Senate: Contacting U.S. Senators](https://www.senate.gov/senators/senators-contact.htm?lang=en)

* Call your Congressional district offices during the week of June 9-15. Identify yourself as a constituent.
* Ask to speak with the staff member who handles health, disability, or aging services programs. Be ready to leave a voice mail message.
* Your voice mail should include your name, city and state. Indicate you are a constituent, leave a return phone number, and state that you would like to speak with the staff about the office’s sponsorship of legislation “helping older Americans who are blind/low vision.”

Message: We would like Senator/Rep X to introduce our coalition’s comprehensive legislation “to help states to better meet the urgent needs of older Americans living with vision loss.” Then share a personal story as a consumer, loved one, professional, or advocate. Ask the staff member for their email address so that you can email the [TJL one-pager](https://d2slnw04.na1.hubspotlinks.com/Ctc/DP+113/d2SlNW04/MWLHnhK8XgrVRrtJk5tdKM0W3S9mTt5wx4FmN58csQH3m2ndW95jsWP6lZ3lLW3tf3937jGdTbW70d70B1VY0rmW2bHRjY98zJt6W5KhSyK2BYyYwW51dyjh2ZH_FbW75Hb2M4HMQjHW4RPK3F2KfzlHW4B_wcR84-5j7W472RvL19GP2BW3zSR8244jvhMW84q1158xlhGjW59jWky1h6mhJW8tBG9q3SkHbHW6KHJcM73nhlNW3BHQks2zPTN9W6bvByZ40WPHyW23yH4Y3JRsgyW9cs8bc8X50F-W7_RY312DGhs2N1tBBr9cj58nW2j8WJF1khrc5W266WxW8rpF1pVCHPqP6VFtVLN8gzv3YFW82LW3bTqms2ZbL5lN1J27xbldD82W5cnGjX1WygxRW6wVbSQ8V0qxKW4y6TRR7SnXzTW223ZhP7sg29Hf6fTvtY04). Get an email so you will have a continued form of contact.

* If the staffer shows interest, try to schedule a follow-up call to discuss at more length/depth.
* Please email the feedback you receive (positive or negative) to: [AVLNC@visionservealliance.org](mailto:AVLNC@visionservealliance.org)