

# Senator Davis' View on Legislative Advocacy – The Good, The Bad, & The Ugly -

---

1. Honesty has its own bouquet, but deceit just stinks!
2. A chairman's desk drawer serves an important governmental purpose.
3. I heard you the first time. Talking louder doesn't help.
4. It doesn't matter who's the smartest guy in the room.
5. Good public policy matters!
6. If you muscle a bill through today, bring your steroids tomorrow. Politics is a long game.
7. Leadership doesn't get to decide.
8. If you didn't know the answer to the question, *why are you still talking?*
9. Today's compromise is tomorrow's public policy.
10. Today's inflexibility is next year's legislative effort.
11. We hate industry fights. Please don't bring them to us.
12. Teach us *why* Idaho needs this bill. Then establish your bill as the best solution.
13. Words matter! Presume someone will read your bill. You might want to, too.
14. Just because the House liked your bill doesn't mean I will.
15. Why is a House member presenting your bill in a Senate committee?
16. A delicious dinner doesn't help me swallow an unsavory bill.
17. I only vote at committee hearings and on the Senate floor. Don't ask beforehand.
18. Last minute "critical" bills are often a ruse. Time and again, the same folks bring last minute "critical" bills.
19. Complicated and important legislation shouldn't be introduced with a week or two to go.
20. Tell me the whole story. Hoping your bill's warts won't be exposed isn't a thoughtful legislative strategy.