

# DEFINING ADVOCACY AND OTHER RELATED TERMS

## Advocacy

The act of pleading or arguing in favor of something, such as a cause, an idea, or a policy; active support (*American Heritage Dictionary* definition)

## Legislative Terms

**Bills** - Measures proposing legislation to create a new law or program or amend or repeal existing law

**Acts** - Bills that have been passed in both houses of Congress

**Laws** - Acts passed by both houses of Congress and signed by the president, or passed after presidential veto

**Authorizations** - Legislation to establish a proposed government program

**Appropriations** - Legislation to provide the money to fund government programs that have already been established by authorizing legislation

**Lobbyist** – An individual who tries to influence the thinking of legislators or other public officials to either promote or prevent passage of specific legislation