

## QUICK GUIDE TO PHOTO PETITIONS

A photo petition is just like it sounds: In addition to collecting signatures, we'll also take photos of folks in our community who want to send their message to the new Congress. Since not everyone can make a meeting with the representative's office, a photo petition is a great way to show the faces behind the campaign.

**HERE'S THE GOAL: GATHER 10 PICTURES EACH** – the more pictures, the more our reps and the rest of Congress will take notice! Here are the three steps to make your photo petition:

### 1. TAKE PICTURES: Here's all you'll need:

- **CAMERA:** Both digital and regular cameras will work. Those without cameras who wish to participate can pick up a cheap disposable camera and snap away! **One thing we are not going to do is take pictures of people under the age of 18.** They are not officially constituents since they cannot vote, and we would have to have a release form from their parent or guardian. **So, make sure the people you are taking photos of are not minors--unless their parent or guardian is standing in the picture with them.**
- **PHOTO PETITION SIGN IN SHEET:** We'll collect the signatures of people whose pictures we are taking just like a regular petition. That way we have their information to deliver to representatives, and they know that their picture might be used in MoveOn materials. They **must** sign the regular petition in order to have their picture taken.

There is no need to connect the specific pictures with the right signature; just having both will be effective in sending the message that people want change. If you need more petition sheets, you can get them at: <http://pol.moveon.org/dec06/photopetition.pdf>

- **SIGNS/PAPER AND MARKERS:** We're asking folks to choose the message most important to them to hold in their photo. We'll write the name of the rep on each sign to make it more personal. If someone wants to write their own message to the member of Congress, that's great too. You can print out signs here: <http://pol.moveon.org/dec06/photosigns.html>
- **NEED HELP GETTING STARTED? TRY THIS:** "Hi Susan, a group of us are meeting with Rep. X to urge bold leadership from the new Congress. We're delivering written and photo petition to show the faces of the voters ready for change. Can I snap your photo for our photo petition with a sign that has your message to Rep. X? Great! We also need you to sign this written petition to go along with the photo."
- **WHO SHOULD YOU PHOTOGRAPH?** It's great to start with your friends and family, but the best photos will be from people with stories and not the "usual suspects." Think about ways to show all the different kinds of women and men, young and old, people in suits and people in uniform, people from all different races.

### 2. PREPARING THE PETITIONS:

- **PRINT OUT YOUR PICTURES:** Whether you have a digital or regular camera, print out your photos
- **SEND ANY DIGITAL PICTURES TO [photopetitions@moveon.org](mailto:photopetitions@moveon.org).** Simply attach pictures to an email and send it in. We will post them all together on the Mandate for Change website to show the momentum behind change nationally.
- **MAKE COPIES OF THE WRITTEN PETITION AND SEND TO US:** You should keep the originals of your written petition so that you can deliver them yourself to your representative. Send us copies at MoveOn.org, PO Box 9218, Berkeley CA 94709.

3. **Bring the photos and SHEETS BACK together and create the photo petition:** We'll have a meeting the week of January 8th. Have your pictures printed and bring them together in January. A group can then compile the photos for presentation in the district meetings with the representatives. Really showing the grassroots support for these issues will provide a mandate for these elected officials to take strong stances from change on the critical issues AND will allow so many people a chance for their voices to be heard.