How Does Advocacy Differ from Lobbying?

Advocacy:

- Distributing materials to the public or your members/clients that discusses legislation
- Responding to written requests for technical advice from a legislative body
- Voter registration
- Conducting research or publishing an analysis on a legislative issue
- Talking directly about legislation that affect your organization’s existence, mission, scope of work, tax exempt status, or substantial fiduciary changes
- Offering an opinion or educating a legislator about an issue
- Litigation on an issue

Lobbying:

- Directly supporting or rejecting a piece of legislation
- Contacting or urging the public to contact policymakers for the purpose of supporting or opposing legislation

Not Allowable:

- Making a campaign contribution on behalf of your organization
- Directly endorsing a candidate