■ Excerpts from Campaign Journals

Gianna Bruno

On meeting with Mark Zglobicki, General Counsel for the Office of Senator Moore

... Amelia and I met with Mark Zglobicki who is General Counsel for the Office of Senator Moore. I thought we had a great meeting. We were able to share the Drought Bill and Zglobicki had a copy of the bill in front of him as well so he was able to point to aspects of the bill as we were discussing it.

What was interesting was that Senator Moore was not originally a co-sponsor, but Zglobicki insisted that the Senator would be very interested in the bill because a major water basin in Massachusetts lies in his district. Right as I thought the meeting was over, Zglobicki confirmed with us that the Drought Bill has been reported favorably a couple of times but has died each time. After we confirmed he suggested that the sponsor of the bill, Senator Eldridge, introduce the bill as an amendment to the transportation and environmental bond bill. He told us that if it is introduced as an amendment and gets the co-sponsors to co-sign to the amendment, then there was a chance that the bill could be put to a vote faster. Of course, he stated, we only had 9 senators co-sponsoring the bill at the moment which is about 1/4 of the senate, so he suggested getting at least a majority of the Senate [to co-sponsor] because it would be harder for the leadership to deny something with such support.

I did not realize there was another possible call to action besides asking for a speedy hearing or requesting a cosponsorship, so learning about this option really changed my perspective on the legislative process. This was the first time either Amelia or I had heard of this option so we made sure to ask clarifying questions and Zglobicki was very helpful in informing us about the process and we made sure to confirm his email address before we left as well.

I really appreciated how he did not treat us like students but like advocates coming into his office to discuss a bill and he seemed very interested in moving the bill forward.