

The American Association of Teachers of French now has a Commission on Advocacy to defend your French program, whether you are a member or not.

We have a national web site to explain our goals and objectives:

Ideas for French Language & Culture Advocacy in the US:

<http://www.utm.edu/staff/globeg/advofr.shtml> with a number of state-specific web sites and informational databases linked to it ([see Tennessee Bob's AATF Advocacy Pack for Maine](#)).

What do we do? We work with you to develop a group of local and state allies (at school, in business, in the local and state political scene, among parents, etc.). We help you develop a corpus of local-specific knowledge and give you state specific reasons why French is important. Among these allies, in most cases we can put you in contact with a chapter advocacy team.

What kind of knowledge do we offer? Recent economic, demographic, historical knowledge about your state that can be openers with power brokers or part of a winning argument in a debate. We offer the addresses of valuable contacts from consulates, state supervisors, your state's AATF chapters, regional chapters of the Alliance Française, and many more.

What else will we do? We will help you create a game plan, and then play an appropriate role in its execution.

Though we cannot guarantee to thwart the bad guys, we can be your best chance to save a good program, provided you let us know early enough. Of course, AATF members receive regular news of what we are doing through our paper publications: <http://www.frenchteachers.org> .

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I might add that we have been active in a number of states promoting the general good of taking languages.

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