

Testimony must be submitted to the Chair of the relevant committee 24 hours prior to the hearing at which proponent/opponent testimony would be heard and must be accompanied by a witness form (see link). Some Committees have specialized witness forms, so you will need to use whichever form that Committee demands.

Template:

Chair _____, Vice Chair _____, Ranking Member _____, and members of the *[insert Committee name]*,

Thank you for allowing me to testify today. My name is _____. I am *[basic bio about who you are]*. I am strongly *[opposed to/in favor of]* *[Bill #]*.

[Tell them why! You can make it short and sweet – a few paragraphs is perfect. Tell a personal story or explain why your job experience gives you this perspective on the bill. Maybe cite some statistics or case studies to back up your claims.]

I ask you to consider my testimony and vote *[NO/YES]* on this *[harmful/dangerous/important/life-changing, etc.]* bill. Thank you again for the opportunity to testify. I will now take any questions you may have.

After you are finished speaking:

Legislators may ask you questions. They are more likely to ask questions if you provide data/statistics or present yourself as having professional experience related to the bill. This can be awesome, but be prepared to back up your testimony!