

HOW TO WRITE & SUBMIT TESTIMONY ABOUT A BILL

Testifying on bills that are pending before the legislature is a powerful way to make your voice heard, and it's a lot simpler than you might think!



TIPS FOR WRITING YOUR TESTIMONY

Always include the basics:

- Your full name and town
- State your position... are you in favor of the legislation, or opposed?
- Any relevant credentials or experience... including “Maine citizen,” “parent,” etc!

Make your testimony more effective:

- Focus on ONE or TWO main points
- Include stories about how this affects you or your community... make it personal!
- Use Maine examples
- Be respectful, even in disagreement
- Edit for clarity, keep it under 2 pages



HOW TO SUBMIT TESTIMONY ONLINE

1. Visit <https://legislature.maine.gov>
2. Scroll to the bottom & select “**Testimony Submission**”
3. Select “**Public Hearing**”
4. Select the **committee** that is holding the public hearing under committee selection
5. Select the **hearing date / time**
6. Select **the bill** on which you would like to testify
7. Complete the information
8. Select “**Submit/Register**”



TIPS FOR TESTIFYING IN PERSON

- Arrive early and sign in when you get there
- Keep it brief as you will have a maximum of 3 minutes... and that time will fly by!
- Bring 20 copies of your testimony with you to leave with the committee for the record
- You don't need to read it verbatim, as you want to leave an emotional impression... instead just tell your story!
- Congratulations, you are making your voice heard in an important way!