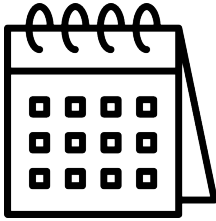


# HOW TO TESTIFY AT A TEXAS LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE HEARING

## Before the Hearing



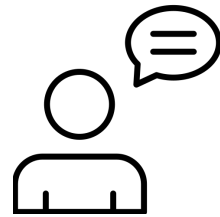
### KNOW WHEN TO TESTIFY

Track bills, issue areas, and committee hearings by signing up for alerts at [www.capitol.texas.gov](http://www.capitol.texas.gov)



### MAKE SURE YOU CAN TESTIFY

Many committee hearings allow public testimony, but some only allow invited witnesses. Check the notice!



### PRACTICE YOUR TESTIMONY

Prepare your 2-3 minutes of comments and run through it a few times aloud.

## Getting to the Capitol

**PARKING NEAR THE BUILDING:** There is a Visitor Parking Garage at 12th & Trinity. There's also metered street parking, but bring quarters!

**GETTING IN THE BUILDING:** There are entrances on the north, south, east, and west sides of the Capitol. There is security and metal detectors at all sides.

**FIND THE KIOSKS:** There are kiosks near the committee hearing rooms. This is where you register to provide testimony.

**YOU DON'T HAVE TO TALK:** The kiosks give you the option of registering support or opposition without providing testimony.

**GET COMFORTABLE:** Arrive early, but expect to stay late. The session is unpredictable - some hearings are short, but some can be very long.



## It's Your Turn



### BE NICE

Your testimony can be passionate, but always be respectful



### BE CONCISE

You only have 2-3 minutes, so make it count!



### BE PERSONAL

say how legislation will impact you, your family, or your friends.



### BRING COPIES

If providing written testimony, check to see how many printouts are required.



### BE UNIQUE

Try not to repeat what other witnesses have said.



### FOLLOW UP

Email committee members to provide additional info.

