

House Judiciary Committee (JUD)
Delegate Joseph F. Vallario, Chairman
Delegate Kathleen M. Dumais, Vice Chairman

Witness Guidelines and Committee FAQ's

Witness Guidelines:

- **Anyone wishing to testify in person on any bill must sign-in** on the electronic witness sign-up computers **by 12:30 p.m. on the day of the hearing**. The sign-up computers are located in the lobby outside the committee room.
- **Witnesses – please do not read your written testimony. Please limit your testimony to no more than three minutes.**
- Witnesses should form panels of four whenever possible so that they can go up together. Following testimony by a panel of four, committee members may ask questions.
- **Written testimony must be submitted no later than two hours prior to the scheduled start of the hearing (generally, 11:00 A.M.).**
- Written testimony must include the following on the front page: the bill number, the name of the individual or organization submitting the testimony, and their position (Support, Support with Amendments, Oppose, or Informational).
- Thirty copies should be submitted to the committee clerk in the committee room. Electronic testimony – facsimile or email – is not accepted.
- The order in which bills are listed on the schedule is not necessarily the order in which the bills will be heard.
- **FOOD AND DRINK ARE NOT PERMITTED** in the audience area and cell phones should be turned off.

Frequently Asked Questions:

- **If I am testifying on a bill, is it necessary to have written testimony?**

No. However, if you do have written testimony, please submit 30 copies to committee staff by 11:00 A.M. the day of the hearing so that it may be distributed.

- **May I submit written testimony prior to the day of the bill hearing?**

Yes, early in-person submission of testimony is welcome. Please do not mail testimony.

- **Do I have to come in person to listen to a bill hearing?**

Committee bill hearings are streamed live over the Internet and may be accessed at <http://www.mgaleg.maryland.gov/webmga/frmcommittees.aspx?pid=av&tab=subject7>