

# Ohio SB 83 Committee Testimony Template

In Ohio, you have the right to present in-person testimony for or against bills in Statehouse committees.

You can also submit written-only testimony (though in-person is strongly preferred if possible!).

This Wednesday, April 19th, at 4:00 pm, the Ohio Senate Workforce and Higher Education Committee will accept testimony against [SB 83, the HIGHER EDUCATION DESTRUCTION ACT](#).

**Want to testify against this bill? Follow this process:**

## **HOW TO SUBMIT TESTIMONY** (in-person OR written-only):

### **1.) Write your testimony**

- See [testimony template below](#).

### **2.) You also need to fill out a witness slip.**

- You can copy/paste [this witness slip](#) into a new document and email it along with your testimony.
- OR you can ask the committee chair's office ([jake.dowling@ohiosenate.gov](mailto:jake.dowling@ohiosenate.gov)) for a witness slip. Fill it out and email it along with your testimony.

### **3.) Email your testimony to the Committee Chair's office** – whether you are testifying in-person or not.

- Email it by 4:00 pm on **Tuesday, April 18th** to [jake.dowling@ohiosenate.gov](mailto:jake.dowling@ohiosenate.gov)

(If you're submitting written-only testimony, that's it! You're done! You officially testified written-only. If you're testifying in-person, see below.)

### **4.) Arrive at the Statehouse before the committee is scheduled to begin.**

- Park either in the garage underneath the Statehouse or the Columbus Commons Parking Garage.
- Note: you'll need to go through a metal detector when you arrive.
- You can ask the security guards to direct you to the committee room where your hearing is being held.

### **5.) Bring a printed copy of your testimony with you** to read in front of the committee (You do **not** have to read your testimony word for word).

### **6.) You may also want to bring copies to hand to reporters** – you can contact reporters ahead of time to let them know you (and your group) will be testifying!

- <https://twitter.com/i/lists/1109105805679362048>

## **TESTIMONY TEMPLATE:**

Chairman Cirino, Vice Chair Rulli, Ranking Member Ingram, and members of the Senate Workforce and Higher Education Committee,

Thank you for allowing me to testify today. My name is \_\_\_\_\_. I am [*basic bio about who you are*]. I am strongly opposed to Senate Bill 83 and its companion bill in the Ohio House.

*[Then tell them why! 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 on this [*harmful/dangerous/important/life-saving/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!

**After each question, try to** start your response with “Chairman, Representative...”