Testimony Template

[Opponent or Proponent] Testimony for [Bill Number]
[Name of Committee Sponsoring the Bill]
[Date of Testimony]

[Your Name, Your Title]
[Your Org/Affiliation]

Chair [name of committee chair], Vice Chair [name of vice chair], Ranking Member [name of ranking member], and members of the [name of committee],

Paragraph 1: Introduction and purpose

Thank you for allowing me to testify today. My name is [insert your full name and pronouns].

a. I am a [insert the perspective you bring to the testimony/your role in your community and where you work/live].

b. State your purpose: Are you here to Oppose? Express concern? Support? Are you addressing the entirety of the bill or a specific section?

Paragraph 2: Personal connection/story

a. Tell a story/give a snapshot from your own life that connects to the policy you mentioned above. Paint the picture for the committee–how could this policy impact you and/or the people closest to you? What would that look like in your life? (keep this short 100-200 words)

Paragraph 3: Connect to broader community impact

a. How would the bill impact a community you belong to? (Your connection might be based on location: your neighborhood, your local schools, your town; or it might be based on shared experiences or identities: “families like mine,” LGBTQ students, African American students, parents, educators across the state, etc.)

Paragraph 4: Reiterate purpose/call to action

a. Restate why you are testifying and who will be impacted by the bill

b. State the action you would like to see in response to your testimony (i.e. “I ask that you please consider my testimony and vote yes/vote no/amend or remove a certain section of the bill

CLOSE:

Thank you. I’m happy to answer any questions.