

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.