Testimony Template

NOTE: Email your testimony to the Committee Chair’s office – whether you are testifying in person or not. Try to email it at least 24 hours ahead of time (though that won’t always be possible). Then bring a printed copy to read in front of the committee.

REMEMBER: You will need to submit/email your testimony with a WITNESS SLIP. You can email the chair’s office and ask for one.

Chairman/woman __________, Vice Chair __________, Ranking Member __________, and members of the __________ 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 (or I strongly support) [Bill Number].

[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/YES] 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.

NOTE: Legislators 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 your testimony up!