**Testimony Template**

**HOW TO SUBMIT TESTIMONY:**

1.) 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).

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

3.) 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!

**REMEMBER:** You will need to submit/email your testimony with a WITNESS SLIP. Those are available for download on the [**“How Things Work at the Ohio Statehouse” Facebook page**](https://www.facebook.com/groups/1202571436523926/) – Files section.

* You can also email the chair’s office and ask for one.

**TESTIMONY TEMPLATE:**

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.

**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!