

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION IN THE LEGISLATIVE PROCESS

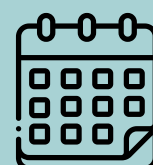
TRACKING A BILL

- A comprehensive list of bills for each General Assembly can be found [here](#)
- You can also enter a specific bill number (e.g. HB 31) or key word into the search bar on the home page of the [General Assembly's website](#)
- On each bill page, there is information about amendments, committee reports, roll calls, and actions taken on the bill (including which committee the bill is assigned to)



GENERAL ASSEMBLY COMMITTEES

- Committees consist of various legislators that conduct a detailed review of proposed legislation and determine if the proposal should move forward in the legislative process
- A comprehensive list of House, Senate, and Joint committees can be found [here](#) and a regularly updated schedule of committee meetings (mainly held from January to June) can be found [here](#)
- Committees also encourage the public to share their perspective on proposed legislation through testifying



TESTIFYING

- You can participate in committee hearings by testifying in person, remotely via Zoom or phone, and through written public comment via email
- Written remarks to House committees can be emailed to HouseCommitteeComment@delaware.gov. Specify the committee title, date of the committee meeting, and bill # you are commenting on
- For House Committees, the meeting notice attached to the Committee page on the General Assembly's website includes a call-in number for public comment and a livestream link
- For written remarks to Senate Committees, the meeting notice attached to the Committee page on the General Assembly's website will notate which staffer to email your public comment to
- To register remotely for Senate committees, select the "Register for Meeting" link found under the Virtual Meeting Info header. Please select "yes" on giving public comment and list the bills you plan to speak on. You will then receive a confirmation email with a link to the Zoom meeting



HELPFUL TIPS FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS

- Begin your remarks with a statement along the lines of "Mr. or Madam Chair ____, members of the committee, thank you for the opportunity to speak today. My name is ____, representing ____, and I am here to support/oppose this bill because . . ."
- Be brief with your statement as statements are typically limited to 2 to 5 minutes. Do not be offended if you are asked to conclude your remarks if you exceed the time limit set by the committee
- At the conclusion of your remarks, thank the committee members and offer to answer any questions they may have
- If you are participating in the public comment process remotely or in-person, supplement your verbal remarks with written remarks through email



CONTACTING LEGISLATORS

- The General Assembly website provides a list of all legislators in the [House](#) and [Senate](#), and each legislator has a phone number and email listed
- When meeting with a legislator in any format, be well prepared for your discussion, ready and willing to answer any questions, and be brief and specific with your comments

