

Providing Testimony to the House Legislative Oversight Committee

The House Legislative Oversight Committee conducts studies and investigations of state agencies in order to determine if agency laws and programs are being implemented and carried out in accordance with the intent of the General Assembly and whether those programs should be continued, curtailed, or eliminated. It also works to inform the public about the agencies it studies.

Public input is a cornerstone of the oversight process. Input from people who interact with state agencies may help direct the Committee to potential areas for improvement.

Opportunities to provide testimony to the Committee

The Committee periodically holds public input meetings to hear testimony on agencies that are under study. The bulk of each study takes place at the Subcommittee level. Public testimony may be allowed at Subcommittee meetings, with permission of the Subcommittee chair. To see scheduled meetings, sign up for Committee updates, or contact the Committee, please visit <http://www.scstatehouse.gov/CommitteeInfo/HouseLegislativeOversightCommittee.php>.

If you choose to testify before the Committee or one of its Subcommittees, please bear the following in mind:

1. All Committee and Subcommittee meetings are open to the public, and whenever technologically feasible, a video of each meeting is made available online.
2. You may be asked to keep testimony within a certain timeframe, often between three and five minutes.
3. You may provide written materials to supplement oral testimony.
4. Committee members may ask questions during testimony.
5. All testimony must be given under oath.
6. While the Committee cannot intervene in any individual's ongoing matter with an agency, the following are examples of topics that may be particularly helpful to the Committee:
 - The agency's communication of information to the public;
 - Experiences with the agency that reflect on its overall ability to fulfill its mission;
 - Multiple similar experiences with the agency that may indicate a pattern;
 - Specific concerns about actions of agency leadership; and
 - Ideas about ways in which an agency could better (i.e., more effectively or efficiently) fulfill its mission.

Other opportunities to provide input to the Committee

Providing public testimony under oath is not the only way to contribute to the oversight process. Other options include:

- Providing input by way of online public surveys;
- Emailing the Committee at HCommLegOv@schouse.gov; and
- Calling or meeting with Committee staff, who will provide a summary of your comments to the Committee.

If you have any questions about providing input to the House Legislative Oversight Committee, please contact the Committee by telephone at (803) 212-6810 or by email at HCommLegOv@schouse.gov.