

2026 Maryland General Assembly Witness Testimony Guidelines

		SENATE STANDING COMMITTEES							
Committee		Sign Up Window	Bill Order Posted	Oral Testimony	Handling of Bills Heard in 2025	Sponsor Witnesses	Time Limit	Zoom Details	Q&A
B&T YouTube ***	Budget & Taxation 3 West Miller 410.841.3690 Cmte Manager: Kimberly Landry	8 am - 6 pm two business days before the hearing Monday hearings sign up on Thursday before 6 pm, Tuesday hearings sign up on Friday before 6pm, etc.	By noon on the day of the hearing.	Witnesses are strongly encouraged to provide in-person oral testimony Witnesses must designate whether they will testify in person or by Zoom Witnesses may not change their oral testimony designation (virtual or in-person) after the sign-up system closes, even if they are not selected for virtual testimony.	- if bill was voted out unanimously by committee in 2025: only bill sponsor will testify; - if bill was heard by committee in 2025, committee will only hear 2 proponents and 2 opponents	The sponsor is responsible for bringing the panel up with them to the table.	2 minutes	Will receive link from noreply@mlis.state.md.us by noon on day of the scheduled bill hearing. When signing in, the Zoom name must match the sign-up name – First and Last.	Committee members will ask questions after the conclusion of a witness’s Testimony. However, any changes to this format are at the discretion of the Committee Chair.
EEE YouTube ***	Education, Energy, & the Environment 2 West Miller 410.841.3661 Cmte Manager: Lamorea Stanton				- if bill was voted out unanimously by committee in 2025: only bill sponsor will testify; - if bill was heard by committee in 2025, committee will only hear 2 proponents and 2 opponents	Sponsor witnesses must also sign up via myMGA.	2 minutes	Cannot designate someone else to take your spot or use zoom link. Camera must be on. Testimony must be live, not recorded. NO SCREENSHARING. All materials must be uploaded using myMGA system at time of testimony sign-up.	
FIN YouTube ***	Finance 3 East Miller 410.841.3677 Cmte Manager: Tammy Kraft	(see table below)		Audio-Visual presentations should be uploaded as written testimony. Contact Committee Managers to request permission to show presentations by either 6 pm on the day before the hearing or 24 hours in advance (differs by committee).	- if bill was voted out unanimously by committee in 2025: only bill sponsor will testify; - if bill was heard by committee in 2025, committee will only hear 2 proponents and 2 opponents	JPR: Sponsor witnesses are permitted to share audio-visual presentations.	2 minutes for less than 30 witnesses; 1 minute for 30 or more witnesses	Follow along with YouTube link (see first column of this chart) while you’re in waiting room – CLOSE OUT OF YOUTUBE IMMEDIATELY when let into Zoom room – if you don’t, your audio will not work properly.	
JPR YouTube	Judicial Proceedings 2 East Miller 410.841.3623 Cmte Manager: Sandy Popp				- if bill was voted out unanimously by committee in 2025: only bill sponsor will testify; - if bill was heard by committee in 2025, committee will only hear 2 proponents and 2 opponents		2 minutes for less than 30 witnesses; 1 minute for 30 or more witnesses	Limit of 14 members of the public may provide virtual oral testimony via Zoom per bill. NOTE: Online testimony must be live, not recorded	

SENATE BILL HEARING TIMELINE:

	<u>Monday Hearing</u>	<u>Tuesday Hearing</u>	<u>Wednesday Hearing</u>	<u>Thursday Hearing</u>	<u>Friday Hearing</u>
Oral Witness Sign-up and Written Testimony Submission	Thursday from 8AM - 6PM	Friday from 8AM - 6PM	Monday from 8AM - 6PM	Tuesday from 8AM - 6PM	Wednesday from 8AM - 6PM

STAY UP TO DATE ON COUNTY NEWS AND POLICY:

WEBSITE: www.mdcountries.org

BLOG: Conduit Street (<http://conduitstreet.mdcountries.org>)

e-NEWSLETTER: This Week on Conduit Street (www.mdcountries.org/SUBSCRIBE to subscribe)

TWITTER: @MDCountries (<https://twitter.com/MDCountries>)

FACEBOOK: www.mdcountries.org/Facebook

PODCAST: www.mdcountries.org/Podcast



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HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEES								
Committee		Sign Up Window	Bill Order Posted	Oral Testimony	Sponsor Witnesses	Time Limit	Zoom Details	Q&A
APP YouTube ***	Appropriations House 121 410.841.3407	2 business days before hearing, between 8 am-6 pm.	Day before the hearing (or on Fridays for Monday hearings).	Max 50 witnesses per bill.	No info provided.	2 minutes per witness, at discretion of Chair.	When signing in, Zoom name must match sign up name – First and Last.	No info
	ECM YouTube ***	2 business days before hearing, between 8 am-6 pm.		No presentations or PowerPoints – may upload as PDF with written testimony.	2 min for Sponsor panel.	2 min per witness, may be reduced – Chair will announce at beginning of hearing.	Cannot designate someone else to take your spot or use zoom link.	
	ENT YouTube ***	2 business days before hearing, between 8 am-6 pm.		If you choose to testify virtually, you MUST enter a valid email address that you can access, because this is how you will receive the Zoom link to get into the hearing to testify.	2 min for Sponsor panel.	2 min per witness, may be reduced – Chair will announce at beginning of hearing. <i>Cap of 50 oral testimony witnesses per bill.</i>	Camera must be on.	
	GVC YouTube ***	2 business days before hearing, between 8 am-6 pm.		There is NO switching from in-person to virtual or vice versa once the sign-up period has closed.			Follow along with YouTube link (see first column of this chart) while you’re in waiting room – CLOSE OUT OF YOUTUBE IMMEDIATELY when let into Zoom room – if you don’t, your audio will not work properly.	
	HLT YouTube ***	2 business days before hearing, between 8 am-6 pm.			2 min for Sponsor panel. Sponsor may cede their time to another witness	2 min per witness, though may be reduced to 1 min – Chair will announce at beginning of hearing.	You will be admitted at start of hearing unless large number of witnesses, then in groups of 5. You will be removed after your bill is heard.	
	JUD YouTube ***	2 business days before hearing, between 8 am-6 pm.		No panels will be offered.	3 min for bill sponsor and 2 min for every sponsor panel member that follows	2 min for other witnesses, though may be reduced– Chair will announce at beginning of hearing.	NO SCREENSHARING. All materials must be uploaded using myMGA system at time of testimony sign-up.	
	W&M YouTube ***	2 business days before hearing, between 8 am-6 pm.			2 min for Sponsor panel.	2 min per witness, though may be reduced to 1 min – Chair will announce at beginning of hearing.	NOTE: Online testimony must be live, not recorded	

HOUSE	Monday Hearing	Tuesday Hearing	Wednesday Hearing	Thursday Hearing	Friday Hearing
Witness & Testimony Sign Up Window	Thursday, 8 am – 6 pm	Friday, 8 am – 6 pm	Monday, 8 am – 6 pm	Tuesday, 8 am – 6 pm	Wednesday, 8 am – 6 pm
Zoom Link Sent (N/A for budget hearings)	Previous Friday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday

***As of 1/8/2026, none of the House Committees have posted 2026 guidelines, and only JPR in the Senate has posted 2026 guidelines. The overall House and Senate guidelines are being reflected above. Please [check the committee pages](#) for updates.

PLEASE NOTE: MACo has provided this information, but it is subject to change at any moment.

Please always check the individual committee witness guidelines on the [MGA website](#) for the most updated policies and procedures.