

## Tips for Giving Your Testimony

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- Sign up to testify. Contact your school district, city government or city council, county office, or state or federal legislator to assist you in signing up to testify at a public hearing.
- Prepare a written statement linking your personal story to your issue of concern.
- The statement should be only five minutes long. Practice it out loud with a timer to be sure!
- Find one or two pictures of your child to show; a picture frame can be placed on the testimony table.
- Provide copies of your written testimony for committee members. Ask to have it distributed after your testimony and be sure your contact information is on it. Most committees have 15 to 20 members.
- Be prepared to answer questions, but it's okay to say "I don't know." Tell them you will follow up and find answers for them.
- Thank them!