

CHECKLIST FOR TESTIFYING AT THE RHODE ISLAND STATE HOUSE

Before you leave

- Locate parking as well as the time and place of the hearing on the Committee Agenda (see Finding and Tracking Legislation and Map of the Rhode Island State House)
- Dress appropriately: some committee rooms are cold (Room 35 always) and others are hot (depending on the time of year)
- Be ready for the long haul: bring snacks, water, a book to read (or other appropriate hobby to occupy your time) and cell phone charger
- Prepare your testimony: if providing written testimony, bring number of copies suggested on the Committee Agenda, plus some extra if the press wants a copy

Before you testify

- Show up prior to the start of the hearing, typically "At the Rise." (see Daily Legislative Timeline and Glossary of Legislative Terminology)
- Sign in to testify at the appropriate committee room (see Map of the State House)
- Provide clerk of the committee with written testimony, if you're submitting

When you testify

- Wait to be called by the chairperson and only address the bill you have been called for, unless instructed otherwise
- Make sure the microphone is on (press the button up to turn it on)
- Do not read your written testimony verbatim
- Offer to answer any questions they may have