

# Remote Testimony 101

## Overview

- Through the remote testimony program, members of the public may testify at committee hearings remotely from select locations throughout the state.
- In 2020, 11 sites will be available for remote testimony: Adams State University in Alamosa; Colorado Mesa University in Grand Junction; Colorado Mesa University in Montrose; Colorado Mountain College-Vail Valley in Edwards; Colorado Mountain College in Glenwood Springs; Colorado Mountain College in Steamboat Springs; Fort Lewis College in Durango; Lamar Community College in Lamar; Northeastern Junior College in Sterling; Otero Junior College in La Junta; and Trinidad State Junior College in Trinidad.
- Not all bills are available for remote testimony; remote testimony bills must be approved by legislative leadership.
- Each caucus is allotted 250 hours of remote testimony during the session.

## Remote Testimony Bill Designation and Witness Sign Up

- When a member wishes to have a bill be available for remote testimony, he or she must complete an authorization form that is signed by the President/Speaker or House/Senate Minority leader.
- When Legislative Council Staff receives the completed authorization form, a remote testimony designation is added in the House/Senate calendar and the bill is added to the General Assembly's remote testimony website: <http://leg.colorado.gov/remote-testimony>
- Witnesses wishing to testify remotely must sign up on the website to testify. At least one person must be signed up to testify 24 hours in advance of the hearing or the remote site will not open for testimony.

## Scheduling Remote Testimony Bills

- In order to give the remote sites and members of the public adequate time to complete the sign-up process, Table I provides the minimum notice necessary to schedule a remote testimony bill. More notice is preferred.
- It is strongly encouraged that committee chairs schedule remote testimony bills as the first item of business on the committee's calendar and at afternoon meetings, if possible.

**Table I: Schedule for Publicizing Remote Testimony Bills**

Day of Committee Hearing for Remote Testimony Bill	Day by Which At Least One Witness Must Be Registered for a Remote Testimony Site to be Opened	Day by Which a Remote Testimony Bill Must Appear on the Calendar/Website	Day and Time by Which a Remote Testimony Authorization Letter from Leadership must be provided to Legislative Council Staff
Monday	Previous Friday	Previous Thursday	Previous Wednesday at Noon
Tuesday	Monday	Previous Friday	Previous Thursday at Noon
Wednesday	Tuesday	Monday	Previous Friday at Noon
Thursday	Wednesday	Tuesday	Monday at Noon
Friday	Thursday	Wednesday	Tuesday at Noon

## Committee Logistics

- Witnesses testifying remotely are subject to the same rules for testimony, as established by the committee chair, as witnesses present in the Capitol Building.
- Committees that are scheduled “upon adjournment” begin upon the adjournment of House or Senate floor work for the day – generally no earlier than 9:30 a.m., and often later.