



# MSMA's Guide On Submitting Online Legislative Testimony

MSMA reports and testifies often on various issues that are important to physicians and patients. It's always beneficial to have physicians testify rather than our lobbyists. Members' opinions and testimony bring more heft to our positions with those on the committee. However, not all MSMA members are able to drop what they're doing to visit Jefferson City for a hearing. Luckily, physicians can submit testimony online.

While MSMA tries to have a physician present to testify in-person, additional testimony is always helpful. This is especially important if you practice or live in the district of a Senator on the committee.

## SENATE HEARINGS



Check the Senate's hearing schedule at <https://www.senate.mo.gov/hearingsschedule/hrings.htm>. Committees are required to give 24-hour's notice of hearings, so check often as the schedule can change quickly. Most

of the bills MSMA are interested in are in the Health & Welfare Committee and the Governmental Accountability Committee, but we also have to keep track of the others. Once you find the hearing and the bill you're interested in, you can click the bill number to read its summary (or the whole bill). Near the top of the page, you'll see a link to the Witness Registration System.

Committee information is found here: <https://senate.mo.gov/Committees/CommitteeGroup/1>. Clicking on the committees will bring up photos of its members. You can click on their photos to learn more about them, check out their district maps (do they represent you?), and to send them individual messages through a contact page (Senators don't put their email addresses online).

You can use the Legislator Lookup tool if you don't know your elected representatives: <https://www.senate.mo.gov/LegisLookup/Default>

If you already have all the information you need, simply visit <https://www.senate.mo.gov/senatewitnesssystem/>. The Senate requires people to sign up before they can submit testimony. You will need to answer a few questions and choose a username and password.

## HOUSE HEARINGS



To check the House's hearing schedule, click here: <https://house.mo.gov/AllHearings.aspx>. It's organized by date across the top, then by time going down the page. If you see the hearing you're interested in, click on it to open a

small window that tells you what bills are being considering. In that window, you can click on the house bill to go to the bill summary and language. You can also click on the committee name in that window to get to a list of all the representatives on the committee (you can then click on their photos to learn more about them). There is also a link to "Submit Written Testimony" inside that window in the upper right corner. That will bring up a list of bills being considered by the committee. Choose the one you want to testify on, enter your testimony, and fill out the personal information. Click submit and you're done.

At the top of the hearing page is a link to "Submit Online Witness Testimony." This will also allow you to submit testimony, but you'll need to know which committee your bill is in.

The House website has a legislator lookup tool right on their front page: <https://house.mo.gov/default.aspx>.

**Questions? Need talking points?**  
Contact [advocacy@msma.org](mailto:advocacy@msma.org).