

House Health and Insurance (H&I) Committee Information

Meeting times and locations. The House H&I Committee meets on Tuesday mornings upon adjournment from the House floor session and Wednesday afternoons beginning at 1:30 pm. The committee will begin 15 minutes after adjournment or unless the chair of the committee announces differently. The committee's designated meeting room is House Committee Room 0112, which is located in the basement level of the State Capitol. Changes to the committee's regular schedule are announced on the House floor prior to adjournment. Additionally, you may follow the House H&I Committee on Twitter, username @COLCSCcommittees, and receive updates on the committee's schedule and the status of bills pending before the committee.

Committee hearings. Committee meetings are broadcast over the internet. Interested persons who are not able to attend the meeting in person can listen live over the internet. To access the live feed, go to the General Assembly's main page at <http://leg.colorado.gov/>. At the top right of the page is a 'Watch & Listen' tab that links to audio broadcasts of current proceedings under the Session Information tab. Individual committee hearings can be accessed by clicking on the House Committee tab and then selecting the appropriate committee.

Joint meetings with the Senate Health and Human Services (HHS) Committee and House Public Health Care and Human Services (PHC&HS) Committee. The joint rules of the House and Senate require the Senate HHS, House H&I, and House PHC&HS committees to stay advised of the activities, functions, and budgets of the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing, the Department of Human Services, and the Department of Public Health and Environment. The House H&I Committee meets jointly with the Senate HHS Committee and House PHC&HS Committee to receive briefings from these departments and the Joint Budget Committee. The committees will also meet jointly to receive briefings and other issues related to health and human services in the state. Joint meetings of the House H&I, Senate HHS, and House PHC&HS committees will be posted in the calendar when scheduled.

Testifying before the committee. Individuals who wish to testify before the committee are asked to sign-up prior to the start of the meeting on the designated sign-up sheets. The sign-up sheets are available in each committee room on the committee table. There will be a separate sign-up sheet for each bill the committee is hearing at each meeting. Individuals are asked to sign in on the sheet pertaining to their bill of interest.

The chair of the committee, Representative Susan Lontine, is responsible for overseeing public testimony and will recognize those on the sign-up sheets in an order most conducive to the business before the committee. With rare exception, everyone signed up to testify will be called upon to testify. Because the meetings are taped and broadcast over the internet, individuals who are testifying are asked to wait to be recognized by the chair prior to beginning their testimony. The appropriate manner of address to the committee chair is "Madame Chair." The appropriate manner of address to House of Representatives committee members is "Representative."

Once witnesses have been recognized by the chair, they may begin their testimony by giving their name and the organization they represent, if any. Committees are subject to tight deadlines and busy schedules. As a courtesy to the legislative members as well as those in the audience waiting to testify, witnesses are asked to keep their testimony concise, relevant to the bill, and, to the extent possible, to not repeat testimony that may have already been provided to the committee. Witnesses may prepare copies of handouts and written testimony for the committee. Witnesses who wish to distribute materials to the committee are asked to bring 12 copies - one for each member of the committee, as well as a copy for the committee's official record. When called to testify, please hand any materials to the committee staff person, who will distribute the materials to the committee members.

Witnesses are asked to observe professional decorum during the committee meetings. Clapping, booing, or otherwise disruptive behavior is not permitted. In addition, witnesses must avoid any personal attacks or other emotional outbursts. Finally, all individuals present in the committee room are asked to turn off all cell phones and electronic devices prior to the start of the meeting.

Committee staff. The nonpartisan Legislative Council Staff person for the House H&I committee is Anne Wallace. She is available to answer any questions regarding the committee schedule. Her phone number is (303) 866-4364, and her email is anne.wallace@state.co.us.