

House Health and Environment (HE) Committee Information

Meeting times and locations. The House HE Committee meets on Tuesday mornings upon adjournment from the House floor session and in the afternoon at 1:30 p.m. It also meets Thursday 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 the Legislative Services Building — Hearing Room A (LSB-A). Hearing Room A is located in the Legislative Services Building at 200 East 14th Avenue, across the street from 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 HE Committee on Twitter, username COHealthComm, 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://www.leg.state.co.us/>. At the top of the page is a link to audio broadcasts of current proceedings. Individual committee hearings can be accessed by clicking on the room in which the meeting is occurring. Again, the House HE Committee meets in LSB-A unless otherwise noted in the calendar or on the House floor. In those instances where a committee room change is made at the last minute, the committee staff will send out an e-mail notification to interested persons.

Joint meetings with the Senate Health and Human Services (HHS) Committee. The joint rules of the House and Senate require the Senate HHS and House HE 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 HE Committee meets jointly with the Senate HHS 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 HE and Senate HHS committees will be held on Thursday afternoons at 1:30 pm in Hearing Room A of the Legislative Services Building, located at 200 East 14th Avenue, Denver, CO, 80203.**

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 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 Ken Summers, 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. 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 "Mr. 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 **14 copies** - one for each member of the committee, as well as a copy for the committee's official record. 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 Legislative Council Staff person for the House HE committee is Amanda King. She is available to answer any questions regarding the committee schedule. Her phone is (303) 866-4332.