

Senate Judiciary Committee Information

Meeting times and locations. The Senate Judiciary Committee meets on Monday and Wednesday afternoons beginning at 1:30 pm and on Tuesdays upon adjournment of the Senate floor session. The committee's designated meeting room is Senate Committee Room 356. Occasionally, the committee meets in a different room in order to accommodate larger crowds or the needs of other committees. Changes to the committee's regular schedule are announced on the Senate floor prior to adjournment. Schedule changes will also be posted to the Joint Judiciary Twitter account at <http://twitter.com/COJudiciaryComm> by the committee staff. Posts to this Twitter account can also be viewed on the Senate Judiciary Committee web page at www.colorado.gov/lcs/SenateJUDCmte.

Audio broadcasts and recordings of 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 <http://bit.ly/scuQS0>. Using the left navigation bar, select the committee or floor session of interest. Upcoming proceedings appear in the "Upcoming Events" section of the page. When the hearing starts, a link titled "Listen to Event" activates, and users may click on the link to listen to the live audio broadcast of the event.

Users may listen to hearings by selecting the hearing's room, rather than by selecting the name of the committee or proceeding, by selecting "Other Committees" and then "By Room." Again, the Senate Judiciary Committee meets in SCR 356, unless otherwise noted in the calendar or on the Senate floor.

After the conclusion of the hearing, an archived recording of the proceeding will be available under the "Archived Audio" section of the page. Archived audio will generally be available within 24 hours of the conclusion of the proceeding. Windows Media Player or Microsoft Silverlight is required to listen to the audio on the website. Links are available on the website to allow users to download these programs. Users can also download audio recordings to their computers.

Oversight and joint hearings. The joint rules of the House and Senate require the House and Senate Judiciary Committees to stay advised of the activities, functions, and budgets of the following departments: the Department of Corrections; the Department of Law; the Department of Public Safety; the Judicial Branch and related agencies; and the Governor's Office of Homeland Security. The Senate Judiciary Committee will meet within the first three weeks of the legislative session to receive briefings from these departments, and will then hold a joint meeting with the House Judiciary Committee and the Joint Budget Committee. The committees may also meet jointly to receive briefings on other issues of importance. **Joint meetings of the House and Senate Judiciary committees will be held on Tuesday mornings in House Committee Room 0107, in the basement of the State Capitol Building.**

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 at the front of the large table in the middle of the committee room. There will be a separate sign-up sheet for each bill the committee is scheduled to hear at each meeting. Individuals are asked to sign in on the sheet pertaining to their bill of interest.

The chair of the committee, Senator Morgan Carroll, 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 "Madam Chair." The appropriate manner of address to Senate committee members is "Senator." Once a witness has been recognized by the chair, the witness may begin testifying by indicating his or her name and the organization he or she represents, if any. Committees are subject to tight deadlines and busy schedules. As a courtesy to the legislative members, as well as to 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 distribute copies of handouts and written testimony to the committee. Witnesses who wish to distribute materials to the committee are asked to bring **10 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 are asked to 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 Senate Judiciary Committee is Hillary Smith. She is available to answer any questions regarding the committee schedule. Her phone number is 303-866-3277. As previously noted, interested persons can also follow the Joint Judiciary committees on Twitter to receive updates on bill votes, schedule changes, and other important information.