

Welcome to the Senate State, Veterans, and Military Affairs Committee

Meeting times and locations. The Senate State, Veterans, and Military Affairs Committee is scheduled to meet on Monday and Wednesday afternoons at 1:30 p.m. and on Tuesday mornings upon adjournment of the Senate. The committee will generally meet in Senate Committee Room 353 (on the third floor of the State Capitol Building). Occasionally, we may meet in a different committee hearing room to accommodate larger crowds or the needs of other committees. Changes to our regular schedule are announced on the Senate floor prior to adjournment. Schedule changes will also be posted to the Joint State Affairs Twitter account at <http://twitter.com/COStateAffComm> by the committee staff. Posts to this Twitter account can also be viewed on the committee web page at www.colorado.gov/lcs/SenateStateVetsMilitaryCmte.

Committee staff. The Legislative Council Staff person for the committee is Julia Jackson. She is available to answer any of your questions regarding the committee schedule. Her phone number is (303) 866-4788. As previously noted, interested persons can also follow the joint committees on Twitter to receive updates on bill votes, schedule changes, and other important information.

Committee hearings. Committee meetings are broadcast over the internet. If you are not able to attend a meeting in person, you can listen to committee meetings live over the internet. To access the live feed, go to the General Assembly's main page at <http://www.leg.state.co.us/>. In the top left corner of the page is a link to audio broadcasts of current proceedings. The meeting audio is organized by committee, and archived meetings are available as well.

Testifying before the committee. If you wish to testify before the committee, please sign up on the sign-up sheet available in the committee room where the Senate State, Veterans, and Military Affairs Committee is meeting. You can sign up before the meeting, or during the meeting if you come in after the meeting has already started.

The chair of the committee, Senator Angela Giron, will oversee the public testimony on bills and other matters before the committee. When she is ready to hear your testimony she will call you forward. With rare exception, everyone signed up to testify will be called upon. Please wait to be recognized by the chair prior to beginning your testimony. Because the meetings are taped and broadcast over the internet, it is important for the chair to recognize all those speaking. The appropriate manner of address for the committee chair is "Madam Chair." The appropriate manner of address for Senate committee members is "Senator." Once you have been recognized by the chair, begin your testimony by giving your name and the organization you represent, if any. Because committees are subject to tight deadlines and busy schedules, please keep your testimony concise, and do not repeat testimony that may have already been provided to the committee. This is a courtesy to the legislative members as well as those in the audience waiting to testify. If you have a written copy of your testimony, please provide it to the committee staff.

Please observe professional decorum and be respectful of all present during the committee meetings. Clapping, booing, or other disruptive behaviors are not permitted. In addition, please avoid any personal attacks or other emotional outbursts. Finally, please silence all cell phones and electronic devices prior to the start of the meeting. Ringing cell phones are highly disruptive to the members and audience during committee hearings.

Joint meetings with the House State, Veterans, and Military Affairs Committee. Joint rules of the House and Senate require our committee to stay advised of the activities, functions, and budgets of the Department of State and the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs. The committee will meet jointly with the House State, Veterans, and Military Affairs Committee on two dates in January to receive briefings from the Joint Budget Committee and the two departments for which the committee has oversight responsibility.