

PRESENTING TO A BILL COMMITTEE

Once the bill receives first reading, members of the public have the opportunity to speak against the bill or offer support, as well as propose amendments before it becomes law. Presentations can be written (a letter or an e-mail) or can be oral (you can speak at a public hearing). It is important to note that both types of presentations are considered equal by the committee, however in-person presentations have the added benefit of being attended by media which can help amplify your voice and create greater public awareness on the issue.

Oppose or Support a Bill

Members of the public can provide a written submission or make an in-person presentation to the committee responsible for a specific bill. This is your opportunity to say what you like, dislike, or would change about the bill.

Making an oral presentation

You must register to make an oral presentation by calling the Office of the Clerk (204) 945-3636. You will be asked for the following registration information:

- the presenter's name, address, contact information;
- whether the presenter is a private citizen or is speaking on behalf of an organization; and
- the name and number of the bill.

Each presenter is allowed a maximum of 10 minutes to make an oral presentation, and an additional five minutes to respond to questions from members of the committee.

Written Submissions

If you prefer to send a written submission on the bill, you can do so anytime following the first reading to:

Clerk of Committees
Room 251 – 450 Broadway
Winnipeg MB
R3C 0V8

You may also fax your submission to **(204) 945-0038**, or send it by email to: committees@leg.gov.mb.ca.

Written submissions must be received before the committee considering the bill concludes its deliberations so that it may be provided to committee members.

Notice of Meeting

There is no way of knowing how far in advance a committee meeting will be scheduled. If presenters are registered to speak to a bill, two calendar days' notice must be given during sittings of the Legislature of the first meeting considering the bill. Intersessionally, ten days' notice is required for the first meeting, and five days' notice for subsequent meetings. Once the Government House Leader has called a meeting, presenters are contacted by the Office of the Clerk and informed of the meeting's date, time and location..

