

## HOUSE JUDICIARY RULES FOR CONFEREES

It is the policy of the House Judiciary Committee to ensure and promote free and open discussion of matters coming before the Committee. Because of the importance of issues that are to be discussed, certain rules are necessary. Just as there are rules relating to the conduct of committee business when matters are debated among committee members, the following rules apply to the hearing process itself. Any questions about these rules should be directed to the committee chairman.

By appearing before the Committee each conferee is presumed to have read the rules and therefore has agreed to be bound by these rules.

We thank you for your understanding of and compliance with these rules.

1. The chair shall determine the committee agenda, including scheduling and the order of business.
2. Anyone wishing to testify before the committee **MUST** notify the committee assistant a minimum of **24 business hours in advance of the hearing at 785-296-5805**. If a hearing is scheduled less than 48 hours' notice, **6 hours' prior notice MUST** be given.
3. All conferees shall have written testimony and shall provide 50 hard copies to committee assistant by 9 a.m. the day of the hearing to Room 519-C N. All conferees are requested to submit an electronic copy in PDF format of the hard copy testimony. The electronic copy should be sent to [connie.burns@house.ks.gov](mailto:connie.burns@house.ks.gov) by the 9 a.m. deadline.
4. Conferees should **NOT** read their testimony. Rather, testimony should be presented in a summary fashion. Conferees shall introduce themselves, identify on whose behalf they are appearing, identify whether they are a proponent, opponent or neutral on the bill and as briefly as possible, state the reasons for their position.
5. If suggested amendment(s) are to be offered, a proposed draft of the amendment(s) must be provided to staff.
6. Conferees shall address their remarks during testimony to committee members and staff only.
7. Where the number of hearings and/or conferees scheduled warrant time limitation, the chair may limit testimony to a specific number of minutes. The chair reserves the right to limit testimony that is cumulative in nature or testimony that is, in the judgment of the chair, not relevant to the matter under consideration.
8. Testimony shall relate to the subject matter of the measure under consideration. Conferees testifying on unrelated subjects will be admonished and if unrelated testimony continues, the chair will terminate the conferee's testimony.
9. While the taking of testimony is not preceded with the formality of an oath, by appearing before the committee every conferee hereby certifies that his or her testimony is truthful, based upon facts that are capable of verification and offered in good faith. Conferees shall promptly bring to the committee's attention any qualifications or corrections in their testimony.

10. The chair reserves the right to take such action as may be necessary to prevent disruptive behavior in the committee room during hearings and deliberations.
11. The chair reserves the right to take such action as may be necessary to prevent or correct a violation of these rules.
12. Cellular phones and pagers with audible tones must be turned off or disabled while in the committee room.
13. Committee members shall not be approached during committee hearings or deliberation by anyone other than fellow legislative members or legislative staff.
14. There shall be no recording in the committee room - audibly, photographically or otherwise - of committee voting except by the committee secretary.