

Guidelines for Advisory Committee Testimony

Advisory committee representatives are allowed up to 10 minutes (Board of Fisheries) or 15 minutes (Board of Game) to testify at board meetings, giving advisory committees an opportunity to expand on and highlight the points in their written comments and recommendations, and answer questions from the board. This testimony should generally be restricted to what occurred at the advisory committee meeting(s), and copies of the minutes should be available for the board members. An advisory committee representative's personal opinions should not be addressed during Advisory Committee testimony. Advisory committee members also have the opportunity to testify as individuals and express personal views and recommendations, but this testimony must be clearly separate from advisory committee testimony.

NOTE: The time limit on testimony does NOT include questions the board members may have for you.

When the chair calls for an advisory committee to testify, the designated advisory committee representative will go to the microphone and state his or her name and the advisory committee represented. At the front table, a green light will come on when you begin speaking. A yellow light will come on when you have one minute remaining. A red light will indicate that your time is up. When you are finished speaking, please stay seated and wait for any questions board members may have regarding your comments.

If you wish to give testimony for more than one group (i.e., yourself in addition to the advisory committee), when you begin your testimony, state for the record that after your advisory committee testimony you will then speak for yourself or another group you are representing. Keep your comments separate for each group. For example: give comments for the advisory committee you are representing, then after stating clearly that you are now testifying for yourself, give those comments.

Please be aware that when you testify you may not ask questions of board members or of department staff. This is your chance to make comments on proposals before the board. If board members and/or department staff need clarification, they will ask you questions.

A person using derogatory or threatening language will not be allowed to continue speaking.