

## Needed: School Representatives to Testify at Legislative Hearings

During the Maryland General Assembly's Legislative Session, which is held from mid-January to early April, legislative committees regularly hold public hearings in Annapolis to consider all legislative bills. Committees usually meet at 1:00 p.m. on Tuesdays through Fridays, and may hear as many as ten to 15 bills in one afternoon. The schedule of bills to be heard is published weekly, and usually provides one-two weeks advance notice of the *date* a bill will be heard. There is no advance notice of what *time* a bill will be heard.

It is very helpful to have individuals testify at hearings on bills affecting our school community who can provide personal and compelling reasons why legislators should support the particular issue. Although each witness usually only speaks briefly (three to five minutes), his or her testimony can make a significant difference in convincing committee members to support the particular legislative issue they are considering.

If you know of teachers, parents and or students in your school community whom you would recommend to speak at legislative hearings, please complete the information below and return this form as soon as possible. We will contact the person recommended, and provide greater details about the legislative hearing process, along with background and talking points on the specific issues to be addressed.

Thank you in advance for your assistance.

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Name of person submitting form

Phone number/Email

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School/City

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Name of person recommended to testify

Phone number/Email

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Position of person recommended (Teacher, Student, Parent, other - please specify)

**RETURN THIS FORM TO:**  
**Mary Ellen Russell**  
**10 Francis Street**  
**Annapolis, MD 21401**  
**FAX: 410-269-1790**

*For more information,*

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