

## **House Public and Behavioral Health and Human Services (PBH&HS) Committee Information**

***Meeting times and locations.*** The House PBH&HS Committee meets on Tuesdays at 1:30 PM and Fridays upon adjournment from the House floor session. The committee will begin ten minutes after adjournment or unless the chair of the committee, Representative Michaelson Jenet, announces differently. The committee's designated meeting room is House Committee Room 0112, which is located in the basement level of the State Capitol. Changes to the committee's regular schedule are announced on the House floor prior to adjournment. Additionally, you may follow the House and Senate Committees on Twitter, username @COLCSCcommittees, and follow the House Public and Behavioral Health and Human Services hashtag, #COHouHHS and receive updates on the committee's schedule and the status of bills pending before the committee.

***Committee hearings.*** Committee meetings are broadcast over the internet. Interested persons who are not able to attend the meeting in person can listen live over the internet. To access the live feed, go the General Assembly's main page at <http://leg.colorado.gov/>. At the top of the page is a link (titled "Watch and Listen") to audio broadcasts of current proceedings. Individual committee hearings can be accessed by clicking on the committee tab and then selecting the appropriate committee.

***Joint meetings with the Senate Health and Human Services (HHS) Committee and House Health and Insurance (H&I) Committee.*** The joint rules of the House and Senate require the Senate HHS, House H&I, and House PBH&HS committees to stay advised of the activities, functions, and budgets of the Department of Health Care Policy and Financing, the Department of Human Services, and the Department of Public Health and Environment. The House PBH&HS Committee meets jointly with the Senate HHS Committee and House H&I Committees to receive briefings from these departments and the Joint Budget Committee. The committees will also meet jointly to receive briefings and other issues related to health and human services in the state.

***Testifying before the committee.*** Individuals who wish to testify in person before the committee are asked to sign-up prior to the start of the meeting. During a declared public health disaster emergency, members of the public may testify remotely through the WebEx video conferencing or call-in options. Persons wishing to testify remotely must register in advance of the meeting. Registration opens when a bill is scheduled for its committee hearing and closes when the meeting begins. Persons wishing to testify in person may register in advance or during the meeting. Witnesses may sign up to testify remotely or in person at <https://leg.colorado.gov/testimony>.

Members of the public may submit written testimony in lieu of testifying in person at <https://leg.colorado.gov/testimony>. The option to submit written testimony will be available once a bill is scheduled for a hearing in a committee of reference and last until the committee hearing on the bill concludes.

The chair of the committee, Representative Michaelson Jenet, is responsible for overseeing public testimony and will recognize those who have registered to testify in an order most conducive to the business before the committee. With rare exception, everyone signed up to testify will be called upon to testify. Because the meetings are taped and broadcast over the internet, individuals who are testifying are asked to wait to be recognized by the chair prior to beginning their testimony. The appropriate manner of address to the committee chair is "Madam Chair." The appropriate manner of address to House of Representatives committee members is "Representative."

Once witnesses have been recognized by the chair, they may begin their testimony by giving their name and the organization they represent, if any. Committees are subject to tight deadlines and busy schedules.

As a courtesy to the legislative members as well as those in the audience waiting to testify, witnesses are asked to keep their testimony concise, relevant to the bill, and, to the extent possible, to not repeat testimony that may have already been provided to the committee. Except when authorized by the chair, committee staff will not handle or distribute paper handouts provided by members of the public.

Witnesses are asked to observe professional decorum during the committee meetings. Clapping, booing, or otherwise disruptive behavior is not permitted. In addition, witnesses must avoid any personal attacks or other emotional outbursts. Finally, all individuals present in the committee room are asked to turn off all cell phones and electronic devices prior to the start of the meeting.

***Committee staff.*** The Legislative Council Staff person for the House PBH&HS committee is Alexa Kelly. She is available to answer any questions regarding the committee schedule. Her phone number is (303) 866-3469 and her email is alexa.kelly@state.co.us.