

## House State, Civic, Military, and Veterans Affairs (SCM&VA) Committee Information

**Meeting times and locations.** The House SCM&VA Committee meets on Mondays at 1:30 p.m. and on Thursdays upon adjournment of the House floor session. The committee will begin fifteen minutes after adjournment unless the chair of the committee, Representative Woodrow, announces differently. The committee's designated meeting room is Legislative Services Building (LSB) Hearing Room A, which is located on the first floor of LSB at 200 East 14th Avenue. The public can enter LSB from the basement level. Changes to the committee's regular schedule are announced on the House floor prior to adjournment. Additionally, updates about the committee's schedule may be posted on the Colorado Legislative Committees' X account @COLCSCcommittees under the hashtag #COHouSVMA.

**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 to 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 State, Veterans, and Military Affairs Committee (SVMA).** The joint rules of the House and Senate require the Senate SVMA and House SCM&VA to stay advised of the activities, functions, and budgets of the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs and the Department of State. The House SCM&VA Committee meets jointly with the Senate SVMA Committee to receive briefings from these departments and the Joint Budget Committee.

**Testifying before the committee.** Individuals who wish to testify on a bill can do so in person, over Zoom, or by submitting written testimony. Members of the public are asked to sign up prior to the start of the meeting, but can sign up during the meeting for in-person testimony. 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 bill hearing begins. Witnesses may sign up to testify in person or remotely at: <https://leg.colorado.gov/testimony>.

The committee chair 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. Typically, everyone signed up to testify will be called upon to testify; however, witnesses may be limited on the length of time they are allowed to testify. Because the meetings are recorded 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 "Mister 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. Witnesses should wait to be recognized by the chair before responding to questions from the committee members. 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.

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 silence cell phones and electronic devices prior to the start of the meeting.

**Committee staff.** The committee analyst for the House SCM&VA committee is Amanda King. She is available to answer any questions regarding the committee schedule. Her phone number is 303-866-4332 and her email is [amanda.king@coleg.gov](mailto:amanda.king@coleg.gov).