

# 2022 Student Statesmanship Institute LEAD

## Lobbyist Instructions

**Note: If an emergency arises and you cannot fulfill your commitment on the day of the event, please call or text Isaac Van Loh at 517-618-1449.**

Thank you for volunteering to serve as a lobbyist for SSI LEAD's Legislative Committee Meetings! We are looking forward to a wonderful and educational week for our students and are glad that you can be a part of our team.

## Details

**Follow the instructions in the email you received to find your assigned position and download the bill you will be speaking on. The email also contains the time and place of the committee hearings. You can also find this information at <https://ssionline.org/vipresources/>.**

## Lobbying

Each bill considered during the meeting will have a lobbyist speaking for and against it. Half of the student legislators have been assigned to support the bill and the other half to oppose it. The students will not be allowed to change their vote, so rather than convincing the "legislators" of your position, your role is instead to provide arguments for them to use during their Mock Session held Friday. Please be aware that you may be asked to take a position you don't agree with; however, you are only role playing and we ask that you do your best to be persuasive. Feel free to inform the students of your "real life" position at the conclusion of the committee meeting, but do not provide any additional arguments beyond those of your original testimony.

Please come prepared to give a **3-5 minute presentation** in support of or opposition to the bill—refer to your email to determine which "side" you have been assigned to take on the issue. When you arrive, you will need to fill out a committee-hearing card and give it to the Committee Clerk. Please include on this card your name (or alias), the "organization" you are representing (feel free to be creative and fabricate a name), the bill you are addressing, and whether you support or oppose the bill according to your assignment.

For your presentation, we simply ask that you be creative and give thought-provoking reasons for the students to consider regarding the bill in question. Arguments both for and against the bill can be found in the analysis after the bill. You may also have a sample testimony for this bill available on our website at <https://ssionline.org/vip-resources/>. This is provided for your convenience. You can feel free to use it or write your own testimony.

**Note: if you are bringing written copies of your testimony or any extra information on the issue, please bring at least 18 copies. Please submit a copy of any handout materials to the Chair with your committee hearing card.**

After your presentation, please be prepared to take questions from the students. If you have time after giving your testimony and would like to stay around in case further questions arise, it would be appreciated.

If you need more information on the bill, you can contact us or feel free to research the information yourself. **If you have any questions, please call Isaac Van Loh at 517-618-1449.**

Thank you!