

LEAD Lobbyist Instructions

Thank you for volunteering to serve as a lobbyist for 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 the bill you will be speaking on. The email also contains the time and place of the committee meetings. This information is available on our website: <https://ssionline.org/vip-resources/>.

Each bill will have two lobbyists speak: one supporting the bill and one opposing. Each committee consists of two caucuses, Blue and Green, rather than Republican and Democratic Caucuses. Students spend the week role-playing as state representatives or state senators and are assigned their positions on each bill. The students will not be allowed to change their position. Rather than convincing the legislators of your position, your role is to help them think through different aspects of the bill and provide supporting or opposing arguments for them to use during their Mock Session held Friday. We ask that you do your best to be persuasive.

If an emergency arises and you cannot fulfill your commitment on the day of the event, please call or text Grace Anne Rosbury at (989)-494-8432.

Lobbying

Please come prepared to give a **3-5 minute testimony** 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 meeting 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. After your testimony, please be prepared to take questions from the students.

For your testimony, we 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. Additional resources for each bill are also provided for your convenience at <https://ssionline.org/vip-resources/>.

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.

If you have any questions, please contact our office at 517-321-6233 or email us at programs@ssionline.org.

Thank you for participating!