

# Instructions for Submitting Written Testimony for The Maryland Invasive Plant Species Bills

## *Bill Title*

Agriculture - Invasive Plant Species - Regulation (Biodiversity and Agriculture Protection Act)

## *Bill Numbers*

The House bill number is HB979. The Senate bill number is SB915.

## *Contents of Written Testimony*

The top of the page should have your letterhead or address. Immediately below that should be the following summary information:

### FOR HOUSE TESTIMONY

Committee: Environment and Transportation  
Testimony on: HB979 "Agriculture - Invasive Plant Species - Regulation  
(Biodiversity and Agriculture Protection Act)"  
Position: Favorable  
Hearing Date: February 28, 2024

### FOR SENATE TESTIMONY

Committee: Education, Energy, and the Environment  
Testimony on: SB915 "Agriculture - Invasive Plant Species - Regulation  
(Biodiversity and Agriculture Protection Act)"  
Position: Favorable  
Hearing Date: March 5, 2024

Written testimony typically begins and ends with a request for the committee to provide a favorable report on the bill. The first or second paragraph includes your organizational affiliation, expertise, and background. Testimony length is generally one to two pages, and it is a good idea to provide citations if you decide to include research results. Including a personal story can provide extra interest, but is not required.

## *Creating an Online Account on the Website for the Maryland General Assembly (MGA)*

Before you can submit testimony, you need to create an account on the MGA [website](#).

## *Submitting Testimony*

Testimony for the House needs to be submitted on 2/26 and for the Senate on 3/4, both sometime between 8 AM and 6 PM. On those days, sign into MyMGA and click on "Witness Signup," the second option on the list on the left part of the screen. If you don't see that option, click on MyMGA again to access "Witness Signup" on the drop-down list. Enter your information by the bill number on the Witness Sign-Up page, including specifying that you are submitting written testimony only. Then, be sure to click on "Save" at the top. You can verify that the entry went through by clicking on "Signed Up Items."

## *Providing a Copy of Your Testimony to Judy Fulton*

Email Judy Fulton a copy of your testimony, so that she can pass it on to the bill sponsors ahead of time. Her email address is [jfulton5@gmail.com](mailto:jfulton5@gmail.com).

## *Instructional Videos*

If you like to view instructional videos, there are several [tutorials](#) on the MGA website.