Addressing the Committee

When Called:

The proper steps once called are:

1. Greeting:

"Mr. Chair/Madam Chair and members of the committee"

2. Introduction:

"I am (Name) and am representing (myself or list organization)."

3. Stance:

"I support/oppose this bill because"

- 4. Testimony
- 5. Conclusion:

"Thank you for allowing me to present testimony today."

6. Answer Any Questions:

Chair: "Mr. Chair/Madam Chair" Others: "Representative (Name)/ Senator (Name)" Want to Learn More About Lobbying or to Stay Informed About Legislation in Your State?

Upon joining UAPPEAL, members are given a detailed Government 101 Lobbying Guide and access to the most accurate and up-to-date state exotic animal legislative monitoring.

Testifying at Hearing

BECOMING A

CITIZEN

LOBBYIST FOR

YOUR

ANIMALS

Uniting A Politically Proactive Exotic Animal League (U.A.P.P.E.A.L.) is the first non-profit 501 (c) 4 lobbying organization that represents current and future owners, handlers and enthusiasts of all species of native and exotic animals and their hybrids at both the federal and state levels.

Mission: To protect the right of responsible exotic and alternative animal ownership by lobbying to prevent unfair regulation, discouraging the casual acquisition of exotic animals through education, and furthering animal welfare through the responsible placement of animals in need.



ABC's of Testifying at a Hearing

- ARRIVE early
- BE sure to introduce yourself and properly address the committee
- COMPLEMENT, don't duplicate, the testimony of others
- DRESS and act professionally
- EVALUATE the hearing's success
- FILL OUT a hearing slip if needed
- GIVE copies of your testimony to the committee
- HEED all rules of testifying
- INVITE questions from the committee
- JUST stay calm and relax
- KEEP your testimony flexible and change it up as needed



- **LIMIT** testimony to three minutes
- MONITOR for any last minute time changes or cancellations
- NEVER feel like you need to have all the answers
- ORGANIZE with like-minded individuals or organizations

- PREPARE for questions from the committee
- QUIET during the hearing – clapping, etc is not allowed
- REHEARSE your testimony
- SUMMARIZE, don't read, your written testimony
- TAKE notes of the hearing
- UPHOLD eye contact
- VERIFY time and type of testimony
- WRITE and format your written testimony
- eXamine the committee and the issue
- YIELD by always having someone near the hearing room in case it begins early both at the hearing start and after any breaks
- **ZERO IN** on a few key points