

Legislative Testimony Assignment

✓ Published

 Edit

⋮

UAPP 473/673:

Governing Nonprofit Organizations

Legislative Testimony Assignment

When the Delaware General Assembly considers a bill, a relevant committee holds a public hearing at which experts and members of the general public offer testimony either supporting or opposing the bill. Those providing testimony are often allowed to submit this testimony in writing in lieu of or in addition to testifying in person. On controversial bills where a number of testifiers may be present, the committee chair may limit oral testimony. Written testimony is able to go into more detail but still should try to make key arguments as clearly and concisely as possible.

For the purposes of this assignment, you are to assume the General Assembly is considering funding for a program to provide management capacity building and leadership training to nonprofits in Delaware, for both staff and boards of directors. You will be providing testimony on this bill as a nonprofit executive director, arguing for the funding. Some assumptions:

1. I am not specifying a committee—simply address the testimony to the committee chair. You are welcome to number and name the bill whatever you would like, keeping with the above-specified purpose.
2. You can be creative with who you are as an Executive Director and your nonprofit—this is up to you. But do think about it in relation to why you would be supporting the bill.
3. Assume this program will be run out of the Center for Community Research and Service at the University of Delaware.
4. Assume that it would be a year-long professional development and certification program (similar to the Standards for Excellence program or a Certified Public Managers program) and that nonprofits will have to apply to participate, but the cost would be covered by the state appropriation (along with grant funding raised).

With those assumptions, your testimony should focus on why this program would provide added value to the state of Delaware. You have flexibility in terms of what you would highlight as part of such a program, drawing on what we have covered in the class in relation to management and

such a program, drawing on what we have covered in the class in relation to management and leadership in the nonprofit sector.

Your testimony should be approximately 1000 words (+ or – 50 words—not significantly longer or shorter—this excludes your references) and should follow the format of one of the examples provided (Please see the [following resources](#) on this page). You should include a reference list with at least five references to support the facts and assertions made in the testimony (again, not counted in the word count).

Your work will be graded on the following:

- Student (as the speaker) clearly introduces who they are and who they are representing.
- Student makes three to four main points, clearly and with sufficient development, on the importance of funding for this kind of a program.
- Student communicates the importance of a strong nonprofit sector for Delaware, with a balance of values and evidence.
- Student balances advocacy with analysis—student conveys passion for the topic but supported with appropriate evidence.
- Testimony includes no grammatical or typographical errors.

Each of these components will be score as a) above proficient, b) proficient, c) needs work

Rubric for Grading

Above Proficient (10)	Proficient (8)	Needs Work (6 and below)
-----------------------------	-------------------	--------------------------------

Student (as the speaker) clearly introduces who they are and who they are representing.

Student makes three to four main points, clearly and with sufficient development, on the importance of funding for this kind of a program.

Student communicates the importance of a strong nonprofit sector for Delaware, with a balance of values and evidence.

Student balances advocacy with analysis—student conveys passion for the topic but supported with appropriate evidence.

Testimony includes no grammatical or

testimony includes no grammatical or typographical errors.

Points 50

Submitting a text entry box or a file upload

Due	For	Available from	Until
Nov 22, 2020	Everyone	-	-

+ [Rubric](#)