**Submitting Public Comment to Texas House Committees**

**10-Minute Meeting Script**

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| 5 minutes | 1. **Public comments**  * Use PPT and/or handout to explain to attendees why public comment is so important.   + These comments give legislators on a committee hard proof of where constituents stand on issues. ​   + A way to provide your thoughts on bills without having to go to the Capitol.   + Comments stay on the record. * Online form that you can use to submit written comments to House committees on various bills. Refer to QR code. * Tips for writing your comment   + Focus on facts.   + Describe how the issue impacts your classroom, your students, your job, etc.   + Be specific about what you want them to do.   + Be passionate while also being polite and professional.   + End with a thank you. |
| 4 minutes | 1. **Write draft comments**  * Have attendees write public comment about a bill currently open for comment *(if applicable)*.   (*Check the Texas AFT Legislative Hotline ahead of the meeting for any current bills open to comment.)* |
| 1 minute | 1. **Commitment**  * Ask attendees to make a commitment to write at least one public comment this session. * Ask for at least 2-3 volunteers who will follow the Hotline and alert others when important bills open for comment. |

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