

2021 Legislative Redistricting Advisory Commission Guidelines for Public Hearings and Submission of Testimony and Plans

Duration Hearings start at the times listed on the public hearing schedule and will last for 2 hours. The Commission may not be able to accommodate everyone who signs up to testify.

Testimony Times **Solely congressional redistricting – 3 minutes**

Solely legislative redistricting – 3 minutes

Combined congressional and legislative redistricting – 5 minutes

Testimony Sign-up To sign up to testify at a Commission meeting, you may sign up electronically by creating a MyMGA account. Once you are signed into your MyMGA account, you may sign up to testify by clicking on “Witness Signup” on the left-hand side of the page and selecting the appropriate hearing. (Click [here](#) for video instructions on how to create a MyMGA account and how to sign-up to testify.)

For hearings scheduled on a Monday, electronic sign-up will open at 10 a.m. on the Friday before the hearing and will close at 10 a.m. on the day of the hearing.

For all other hearings, electronic sign-up will open at 10 a.m. the day before the public hearing and will be open for 24 hours.

If you do not want to create a MyMGA account or did not sign up electronically by the deadline, you may sign up in person on the day of the public hearing. Sign-up sheets will be available for 50 minutes before the start of the hearing. No one will be able to sign up and speak once the sign-up sheets are removed.

Written Comments Testifiers who sign up electronically may upload testimony when signing up or email testimony to testimony_LRAC@mlis.state.md.us.

Members of the public who do not wish to testify at a public hearing, but do wish to submit written comments may email written electronic comments to testimony_LRAC@mlis.state.md.us.

Written electronic comments will be accepted at any time until the plan to which the comments relate is adopted by the General Assembly. However, if a person wishes to have written electronic comments available to members of the Commission at

a particular hearing, the comments must be submitted no later than **10 a.m. on the day of the hearing.**

Written electronic comments must be submitted as a PDF. Any links contained in written electronic comments or otherwise submitted with written electronic comments will not be opened.

If written electronic comments are not submitted before a hearing, 10 hard copies will also be accepted at the hearing when the person testifies.

Third Party Plans

Third party plans may be submitted by emailing the plan to maps_LRAC@mlis.state.md.us or uploading the plan as written testimony when signing up electronically to testify at a public hearing.

Third party plans will be accepted at any time until the plan to which they relate is adopted by the General Assembly. However, if a person wishes to have a plan available to members of the Commission at a particular hearing, the plan must be submitted no later than **10 a.m. on the day of the hearing.**

Third party plans must be submitted as an equivalency file or a PDF.

Restrictions

Testimony is limited to congressional and State legislative redistricting. The Commission will not hear testimony on local government redistricting (e.g. council, commissioner, municipal, school, etc.).

Public Record

Commission hearings will be recorded and will be streamed live to the Maryland General Assembly YouTube Channel. The recordings will be available [here](#).

Special Accommodations

American Sign Language interpretation will be provided at each in-person public hearing. Different accommodations for individuals with disabilities may be requested by submitting the [request form](#) at least 14 business days before the hearing or by contacting the General Assembly's ADA coordinator by email at libr@mlis.state.md.us. Requests submitted closer to the hearing will be fulfilled to the extent possible.

Closed captioning will be provided for each virtual public hearing.

A Spanish translator will be present at the hearings in Montgomery County and Prince George's County.