

Support HB 157 — Public Testimony Guide

Talking Points & 1-Minute Examples

IMPORTANT REMINDER

- You only have **ONE (1) minute** to testify (that's about **120–150 words**).
 - Practice ahead of time and time yourself.
 - **Calm, respectful, and concise testimony is the most effective.**
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GOAL OF TESTIMONY

Support **HB 157** by emphasizing:

- Support for expectant families and new parents
- Clear access to existing resources
- Early, preventative help — not crisis response
- Responsible use of taxpayer dollars

This bill is about **access and clarity**, not mandates or ideology.

KEY TALKING POINTS (Choose 2–3)

You do **not** need to cover everything.

Pick what resonates most with you.

- HB 157 centralizes pregnancy and parenting resources in one place
 - Families often lack clarity, not options
 - Early access to information improves outcomes
 - The bill uses a modest, one-time appropriation
 - No mandates, no new programs, no long-term spending
 - Supporting families early strengthens children and communities
 - This is a practical, preventative solution
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WHAT TO AVOID

- Debating abortion policy unless directly asked
- Emotional or accusatory language

- Long personal stories that exceed the time limit
- Attacking agencies, providers, or lawmakers

Tone matters. **Calm confidence carries weight.**

SAMPLE 1-MINUTE TESTIMONY #1 — Parent / Family Perspective

“Good afternoon, Chair and members of the committee.

My name is ____, and I’m here on behalf of families across New Mexico in support of HB 157.

Too often, expectant parents and new families don’t know where to turn for help—not because resources don’t exist, but because they’re hard to find. HB 157 addresses that gap by creating a centralized pregnancy and parenting resource website and hotline.

This bill does not mandate services or create new programs. It simply helps families access existing support early, when it can make the biggest difference.

Early information reduces stress, improves outcomes for children, and strengthens families. HB 157 is a modest, responsible investment that supports parents without increasing bureaucracy. I respectfully urge your support. Thank you.”

SAMPLE 1-MINUTE TESTIMONY #2 — Community Member / Governance-Focused

“Good afternoon, members of the committee.

My name is ____, and I’m here to support HB 157.

HB 157 is a practical, preventative approach to supporting families. It creates a centralized website and hotline so expectant parents can easily find information about pregnancy, parenting, adoption, and available assistance.

This bill does not expand government programs or impose mandates. It improves access to services that already exist, using a one-time appropriation with clear limits.

Helping families find support early can reduce crisis-driven outcomes later. HB 157 is responsible, efficient, and family-focused. I respectfully ask for your support. Thank you for your time.”

SAMPLE 1-MINUTE TESTIMONY #3 — Short & Direct

“Chair and members, thank you for the opportunity to speak.

My name is ____.

I support HB 157 because it helps expectant families find existing resources without mandates or new bureaucracy. This bill provides clarity at a critical time and supports families before challenges become crises.

It is a modest, one-time investment that strengthens outcomes for parents and children. I urge you to vote yes on HB 157. Thank you.”

 **FINAL TIP:** Write your testimony out, read it aloud, and **time yourself**. If it’s over one minute, **cut it down — shorter is stronger**.