

Model Senate

Get to Know Your Expert Witness

Students assigned to the role of **Expert Witness** should complete the following worksheet as preliminary preparation for the **Model Senate**. Successful participants will have a firm understanding of their assigned character's background, education, work, and relationship to the topic. Information on **Expert Witnesses** can be found in a variety of online sources, however, students should be sure to verify the accuracy and validity of the sources used. In order to accurately complete this document, students should **know their assigned committee topic** as determined in their school's **Student Assignment Document**.

Place a professional headshot or photo of your assigned Expert Witness here:

Professional Name and Title (ex. Dr. Anthony Fauci) _____

Professional Background (ex. Professor, Lawyer, Climate Change Activist) _____

Political Party Affiliation (If known) _____

Prior Political Career? (ex. Ohio's Secretary of State) _____

Why has your assigned character been called before this Senate committee? Why would the Senators want to hear from your assigned character on this committee topic?

Summarize your Expert Witness's position on your assigned committee topic

What interest or interest group (i.e. climate change advocate, pharmaceutical executive) does your assigned character represent? How would that affect their testimony in a Senate Committee hearing?



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Does your assigned Expert Witness have public comments, statements, testimony, or policy arguments on your assigned committee topic that you can find through online research? If not, can you make an educated determination of what their policy arguments may be on your assigned topic?

What are some policy proposals that your Expert Witness has previously stated that pertains to your assigned committee topic?

What are some potential areas of bipartisan agreement on your assigned committee topic?

Expert Witnesses will be asked questions directly from Senators in their assigned committee room. Either alone or with a partner, brainstorm some questions you may be asked by Senators from either party.

Expert Witnesses will be asked at the beginning of the committee session to make a 1-minute opening statement. The statement should include a brief biographical introduction, the relationship between your assigned character and the topic at hand, and any other brief thoughts that may be relevant to your character. Please write your opening statement below: