

## Offering Oral Testimony To the Legislative Body

*When you offer oral testimony to a Legislative or Senate hearing:*

- 1) Bring a written copy of your testimony to pass in to the committee
- 2) Introduce yourself: . . . My name is \_\_\_\_\_ from \_\_\_\_\_ NH
- 3) DO NOT READ YOUR WRITTEN TESTIMONY, just refer to it and highlight the major points you wish to make. Try to speak spontaneously. Be brief and concise.
- 4) ASK FOR WHAT YOU WANT: “ I am here to ask you to fully fund the Bureau of Developmental Services budget, including the changes to the budget and to continue to fully fund the waiting list”
- 5) In three or four sentences, explain why this is crucial to your family. Share something personal and memorable.
- 6) When possible, include an example that shows how your request makes sense, for example in regards to funding the Wait List, “without this funding for a day program, I will have to quit my job and my family cannot survive on a single income.”
- 7) In closing . . . briefly restate what you want them to do.
- 8) Thank them for taking the time to hear your testimony.