

Writing a Congress Speech

- I. **Introduction:**
 - A. Attention Getter** ~ a catchy phrase, quotation, or statistic:
 1. relevant to your topic
 2. Grabs the audience's attention
 - B. Statement of Action** ~
 1. The *Action* of your bill or resolution, include item number and title. (*Located in sections 1 & 2 of a bill, or in the Resolve of a resolution*)
 2. Preview of your Supporting Reasons.
- II. **Body:**
 - A. Supporting Reason #1** ~ Give your audience a logical reason to vote for your legislation. Include factual information which supports your reasoning. Should be 5-7 sentences.
 - B. Supporting Reason #2** ~ Repeat above. Also 5-7 sentences.
 - C. Third point options**
 1. *Pre-emptive Strike/Direct Refutation* ~ If you are the author/sponsor directly address a strong argument from the opposition before they have the chance to introduce it and explain why it's not really a reason to reject your bill/resolution. If you are any speech after the author/sponsor, directly refute arguments made by the previous speaker(s).
 2. *Pathetic Appeal (Pathos)* - find a true story about someone who has suffered under the current system or as a result of the proposed solution. Give the issue a face and a name.
- III. **Conclusion:**
 - A. Summarize** ~ Review the Action and your supporting reasons.
 - B. Final Thought** ~ A fact, quotation, or rhetorical question.
 - C. Urge the Vote** ~ Request that the assembly vote for/against this legislation.
 - D. Examples:**
 1. "Please vote for this bill, {item # & title}"
 2. Fight for the children, support {item # & title}"
 3. Your vote for {item # & title} will save lives
 4. Don't waste resources, vote NO on {item # & title}"
 5. Support real change, vote YES for {item # & title}"