

*“Effective comment is informed comment.”*

Selected information from Rulemaking 2.0: Understanding and Getting Better Public Participation (IBM Center for The Business of Government: August 2013)

**Tips for effective commenting on proposed rules/regulations**

- Address what the agency is proposing
- Consider and respond as necessary to the agency’s factual assumptions and policy arguments; demonstrate your understanding of the relevant facts, circumstances, and issues
- Articulate reasons for your position; make reasoned arguments
- Provide substantiation for your claims; justify opinions with personal experience, expertise, evidence
- Engage with and respond to opposing points of view; consider and evaluate a range of possible outcome alternatives
- Make suggestions or criticisms consistent with the agency’s actual authority and mandate (some comments may be better directed at the legislature who passed the statute)

**Remember**

1. You have a legal right to comment.
2. The agency has a legal responsibility to review and consider your comments.
3. A single comment that makes a good point can change the outcome in the rulemaking.