

1 (Regulations of the Fair Political Practices Commission, Title 2, Division 6, California Code of
2 Regulations.)

3 **§ 18310.1. Public Participation at Meetings**

4 During Commission meetings, the following rules regarding public participation apply:

5 (a) Time.

6 (1) Each member of the public will have a maximum of three minutes to speak per
7 agenda item.

8 (2) Each member of the public who requires translation or interpretive services will have
9 a maximum of six minutes to speak per agenda item.

10 (3) The Chair may modify the amount of time members of the public are allocated for
11 individual comments, depending on the number of speakers. A change to the amount of time
12 allocated for individual comments will apply equally to all speakers.

13 (4) Members of the public may cede time to an individual spokesperson, under the
14 following conditions:

15 (A) Members of the public who choose to cede time forfeit their right to speak on the
16 agenda item.

17 (B) Designated spokespersons will be provided a maximum of five minutes to address the
18 Commission on the agenda item.

19 (5) If a speaker is interrupted by a question or comment from a member of the
20 Commission, the Chair may offer a reasonable extension of the allotted time so the speaker may
21 finish the comment or respond to Commissioner questions.

1 (6) The Chair may limit the total amount of time allocated for items not on the agenda or
2 for a particular agenda item and may publish such limitations in advance on the agenda for the
3 meeting.

4 (7) If the total amount of time allocated for public comments is limited by the Chair,
5 individuals who do not receive the opportunity to speak due to the expiration of the allocated
6 time may submit comments in writing during the meeting, and such comments will be made part
7 of the record.

8 (b) Rules of Organization and Order

9 (1) Except as otherwise directed by the Chair, public comments at meetings shall be
10 received on a “first come, first serve” basis.

11 (2) The Chair may take comments out of order.

12 (3) Speakers shall address only the Commission during public comment and shall not
13 direct comments at other members of the public in attendance, except with express, advance
14 permission of the Chair.

15 (4) Speakers shall yield the floor to any member of the Commission who wishes to ask a
16 question or otherwise speak during the speaker’s comment.

17 (5) Speakers shall refrain from profane, lewd, abusive, irrelevant, or repetitious
18 commentary to the extent that such commentary is disruptive to the meeting.

19 (6) Speakers shall limit comments to matters that are subject to the Commission’s
20 jurisdiction.

21 (7) Members of the public may not disrupt any speaker or participant of the meeting
22 through audible comments, gestures, outbursts, or other distractions.

1 (8) Members of the public may not disrupt any other attendee(s) from viewing, hearing,
2 or legitimately participating in any material portion of the meeting.

3 (9) Members of the public may not disrupt any videotaping or audiotaping conducted by
4 the FPPC for the public.

5 (10) Members of the public shall not bring signs, flags, banners, exhibits, marquees, or
6 other demonstrative objects into the meeting room. Members of the public may carry and/or
7 display paper materials no larger than letter-sized paper in the meeting room, provided that such
8 paper materials are displayed below shoulder height, and do not otherwise obstruct the view of
9 any other attendee(s).

10 (11) If a disruption occurs during a meeting, the Chair may take reasonable steps to stop
11 the disruption and, in the event the disruption continues, the Commission may take other
12 necessary steps, including clearing the room of up to all members of the public and/or adjourning
13 the meeting.

14 (12) The Chair may require a member of the public to leave the meeting, or limit that
15 individual's opportunity to provide public comment, if that individual has purposefully violated
16 this Regulation or otherwise purposefully disrupted the meeting, or expressly encouraged another
17 to do so.

18 (13) The Commission may not prohibit a public comment or otherwise enforce this
19 Regulation based on any view expressed, which may include criticism of acts, omissions,
20 policies, programs, or services of the FPPC.

21 (c) Audio, Video and Text-Based Comments by the Public

22 (1) Speakers who provide commentary at Commission meetings through audio or video
23 messaging, or text-based comments on the FPPC website, are subject to the same rules as those

1 providing in-person comments at the meeting, except insofar as the medium makes compliance
2 with any rule impracticable, as determined by the Chair.

3 (2) The Commission recommends that text-based comments not exceed 1,000 characters,
4 and the Chair may impose reasonable character limitations for text-based comments in advance
5 of any meeting.

6 (3) The Commission may reject and/or “block” any content that is received from a source
7 that is not a human being, such as a software “bot.”

8 (4) During a meeting, the Chair may reject or limit the public display of a text-based
9 comment where it is reasonably foreseeable the comment would disrupt, unnecessarily delay, or
10 otherwise interfere with the efficient conducting of the meeting. All submitted comments will be
11 preserved and available for public inspection following the meeting.

12 (5) Any speaker who wishes to use any electronic or mechanical audio/visual equipment
13 for purposes of public presentation must seek permission from the Chair no later than 24 hours
14 prior to the meeting at which such equipment is intended to be used. The Commission shall make
15 reasonable efforts to accommodate such requests that will not otherwise cause a disruption or
16 delay in the meeting, which reasonable efforts shall include accommodating any necessary
17 electronic or mechanical translation equipment, and/or equipment necessary to facilitate live
18 public comment from anyone with a disability. Nothing herein should be interpreted as abridging
19 any right or protection afforded by the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, or any other
20 state or federal law.

21 Note: Authority cited: Sections 83112, 11125.7, Government Code. Reference: Sections 83110,
22 83111, 83112, Government Code.