

# Hot Seat

This activity is a great way for students to identify issues that may come up during debate on their bill, and gives others the opportunity to point out potential weaknesses bill sponsors may want to address prior to attending the Youth Legislature.

## Delegate assignments

For each round the group will need:

1. A timer
2. A recorder
3. A person in the "hot seat"
4. A group of at least 5 to form the question circle

## Overview

1. Students should form a large circle with one individual in the center (the hot seat).
2. A timer starts the clock and delegates in the circle have 2 minutes to fire off as many questions as possible regarding the bill of the person in the hot seat.
3. The person in the hot seat should answer each question with as few words as possible leaving time for more questions. "I don't know" is an acceptable answer.
4. The recorder writes down each question. Questions will later be typed up and given to the person in the hot seat to use as a guide for future research

## Directions to students

1. Let students know about the activity several days in advance so they can be thinking about questions and prepare themselves for the hot seat.
2. This is not a debate activity. Students in the circle ask questions and the individual in the hot seat answers – no comments or debate are allowed.
3. This is a timed activity and students in the hot seat should answer quickly. Not knowing the answer to a question is OK and should be seen as an opportunity to do additional research and be better prepared for debate.