

Law and Justice Interim Committee

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59th Montana Legislature

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AGENDA

Meeting #2: Full Committee DAY 2

Thursday, September 22, 2005 Room 102, State Capitol, Helena

8:30 a.m. Roll Call Background report on county attorney services, Ms. Sheri Heffelfinger, 8:45 a.m. Legislative Research Analyst 9:15 a.m. State workload for county attorneys, identification of which counties and which cases require state assistance the most, problems with the current system, discussion of whether the state should consider a district attorney structure, Attorney General Mike McGrath and Mr. John Connor, Chief Criminal **Counsel, Prosecution Services Bureau** 10:00 a.m. Overview of differences among the counties and how that affects county attorney positions, duties, and salaries, Mr. Harold Blattie, Executive Director, Montana Association of Counties 10:45 a.m. **BREAK** 11:00 a.m. County attorney workload, problems with the current system, discussion of whether the state should consider a district attorney structure, Missoula County Attorney Fred VanValkenburg, President, Montana County Attorney Association 11:45 a.m. **LUNCH BREAK**

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- 1:00 p.m. <u>Update:</u> SJR 37 study by the Children, Families, Health, and Human Services Interim Committee, **Susan Fox**, Research Analyst Legislative Services
- 1:15 p.m. Public Comment on SJR 40
- 2:15 p.m. Committee work session: What information, issues, and options would the Committee like outlined in a staff "white paper" to be presented to the Committee at its March meeting? Who would the Committee like to have participate in a round table discussion after the staff report is presented? Rep. John Parker, Chairman
- 3:45 p.m. Other business Adjournment