

SENATE BILL NO. 11

INTRODUCED BY D. SHEA

BY REQUEST OF THE LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT REVISING THE LAWS RELATING TO THE PRESESSION CAUCUSES AND LEGISLATIVE ORIENTATION; CLARIFYING THE CALLING OF THE PRESESSION CAUCUSES; PROVIDING FOR PAYMENT OF COMPENSATION AND EXPENSES FOR MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATURE ATTENDING LEGISLATIVE ORIENTATION AND TRAINING; AMENDING SECTIONS 5-2-201, 5-2-202, AND 5-2-203, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE AND A RETROACTIVE APPLICABILITY DATE."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

Section 1. Section 5-2-201, MCA, is amended to read:

"5-2-201. Pre-session caucus. Not later than December 1 of each year following an election when members of the legislature are elected, the parties of each house of the legislature shall hold a pre-session caucus for holdover senators, senators-elect, and representatives-elect. The purpose of the caucus of each party of each house is to nominate officers and establish the basis for additional pre-session activity, including hiring staff and appointing committees. The legislative council shall designate the time for holding the pre-session caucuses."

Section 2. Section 5-2-202, MCA, is amended to read:

"5-2-202. Pre-session activity. (1) Members of the legislature nominated to leadership positions during the pre-session caucus provided for in 5-2-201 and members nominated or appointed to the legislative administration committees, committee on committees, and rules committees may meet and perform necessary organizational tasks prior to the regular session, including but not limited to appointing committees, hiring staff, and assigning space and seating.

(2) Members of the house appropriations committee and of the senate finance and claims committee named prior to the regular session may begin reviewing requests for appropriations immediately and may visit state agencies and institutions to discuss requests."



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2 **Section 3.** Section 5-2-203, MCA, is amended to read:

3 **"5-2-203. Compensation and expenses.** (1) Members of the legislature attending the pre-session
4 caucus provided for in 5-2-201 and legislative orientation and training are entitled to receive compensation
5 and expenses as provided in 5-2-302.

6 (2) While engaged in pre-session business, members nominated to serve as officers of the
7 legislature and members of the committees named in 5-2-202 are entitled to receive compensation and
8 expenses as provided in 5-2-302."

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10 NEW SECTION. **Section 4. Effective date.** [This act] is effective on passage and approval.

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12 NEW SECTION. **Section 5. Retroactive applicability.** [This act] applies retroactively, within the
13 meaning of 1-2-109, to November 7, 2000.

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