

UNIFORM STATE LAW COMMISSIONERS

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Background:

- The National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws was organized in 1892 to promote uniformity in state law, on all subjects in which uniformity is desirable and practicable, by voluntary action on each state government.
- It is composed of commissioners from each state, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico.
- Throughout the years, the Montana Legislature has enacted numerous uniform laws including the *Uniform Commercial Code*, *Uniform Controlled Substance Act*, *Uniform Health Care Information Act*, and *Uniform Trades Secrets Act*.

Applicable state law:

- **1-12-101. Appointment, composition, term of office.** (1) There is a Montana commission on uniform state laws, which consists of three recognized members of the bar or members of the faculty of the law school of the university of Montana-Missoula and any resident of this state who, because of long service in the cause of the uniformity of state legislation, has been elected a life member of the national conference of commissioners on uniform state laws. Commissioners must be appointed by the legislative council for terms of 4 years each or until their successors are appointed. The legislative council may accept recommendations for appointments from the state bar of Montana, the Montana judges' association, and the dean of the law school.
(2) Commissioners shall serve for no salary. Commissioners are entitled to reimbursement for expenses as provided in 2-18-501.
- **1-12-104. Duties of commissioners.** (1) Each commissioner shall attempt to attend the meeting of the national conference of commissioners on uniform state laws and shall promote uniformity in state laws upon all subjects in which uniformity is desirable and practicable.
(2) It is the duty of the commission to bring about, as far as practicable, the uniform judicial interpretation of all uniform laws.

Montana Commission on Uniform State Laws:

- In June 2001, the Legislative Council appointed Joe Mazurek, Ed Eck (Dean, University of Montana Law School), and Justice James Nelson as Montana commissioners to 4-year terms expiring June 30, 2005.
- The LSD's Legal Services Director and Code Commissioner, while not a member of the national commission, serves *ex officio* as an associate.