

Montana State Legislature

2015 SESSION

ADDITIONAL DOCUMENTS

Business Page

[Signed by Chairman]

Roll Call

Standing Committee Reports

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Proxy Forms

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***Any other documents, which were submitted after the committee hearing has ended and/or was submitted late [within 48 hours], regarding information in the committee hearing.**

***Witness Statements that were not presented as exhibits.**

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2015 Legislative

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BUSINESS REPORT

**MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
64th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

HOUSE STATE ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

Date: Thursday, January 22, 2015
Place: Capitol

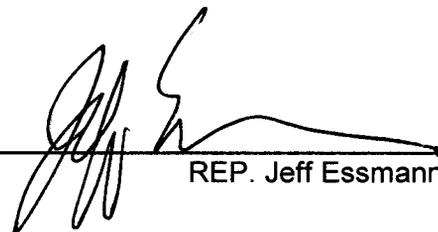
Time: 9:00 A.M.
Room: 455

BILLS and RESOLUTIONS HEARD:

HB 86 - Revising the date absentee ballots are available in certain elections - Rep. Geraldine Custer
HB 126 - Revise burial preservation board member compensation laws - Rep. Rae Peppers
HB 131 - Revise election reporting period requirements - Rep. Ellie Boldman Hill
HB 198 - Revise election laws related to names on the ballot - Rep. Keith Regier

EXECUTIVE ACTION TAKEN: None

Comments:



REP. Jeff Essmann, Chair



The Big Sky Country

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

STATE ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE

ROLL CALL

DATE: Thurs. Jan. 22, 2015

NAME	PRESENT	ABSENT/EXCUSED
REP. BILL HARRIS, VICE CHAIRMAN	✓	
REP. CASEY SCHREINER, VICE CHAIRMAN	✓	
REP. BRYCE BENNETT	✓	
REP. BOB BROWN	✓	
REP. MOFFIE FUNK	✓	
REP. FRANK GARNER	✓	
REP. EDWARD GREEF	✓	
REP. DENISE HAYMAN	✓	
REP. JESSICA KARJALA	✓	
REP. AUSTIN KNUDSEN		✓ -exc.
REP. DEBRA LAMM	✓	
REP. FORREST MANDEVILLE	✓	
REP. WENDY MCKAMEY	✓	
REP. DALE MORTENSEN	✓	
REP. JEAN PRICE	✓	
REP. RAY SHAW	✓	
REP. KATHY SWANSON	✓	
REP. SUSAN WEBBER		✓ -exc.
REP. ART WITTICH		✓ -exc.
REP. JEFF ESSMANN, CHAIRMAN	✓	

20 MEMBERS



To: Bryce Bennett, Representative for House District 54
Jeff Essmann, Chairperson and Representative for House District 54
Jonathan Motl, Commissioner of Political Practices

Date: January 21, 2015

From: Jaime MacNaughton,
General Counsel for the Office of the Commissioner of Political Practices

Re: Political Party Definition, Mont. Code Ann. § 13-37-216 (2014)

QUESTIONS PRESENTED

Question 1: List of citations in Montana Code Annotated as to what a “political party organization” is.

Question 2: Are local party committees separate “political party organizations”?

ANSWER

Question 1. “Political party organization” is defined in statute as “any political organization that was represented on the official ballot at the most recent gubernatorial election”, Mont. Code Ann. § 13-37-216(3). In the 2012 election, political organizations on the gubernatorial election ballot were the Democratic Party, Libertarian Party, and Republican Party. (Secretary of State website). In order for any political party entity to qualify to exempt in-kind personal services from their contribution limits, the entity would have to first be listed as a political party organization on the official ballot in the most recent gubernatorial election cycle.

Question 2. No. A political party organization forms a political party committee, Mont. R. Admin. 44.10.327(2)(b)(ii). A political party committee specifically includes the activity of all of its committees in one aggregate contribution limit for the entire political party organization. The political party organization incorporates the activities of all their “county central committees, city central committees, women’s clubs, and other committees” into their collective authorized contribution limit to a candidate, Mont. R. Admin. 44.10.333(1).



**MONTANA SECRETARY OF STATE LINDA McCULLOCH
2012 STATEWIDE GENERAL ELECTION CANVASS**

GOVERNOR & LT. GOVERNOR

	Democrat STEVE BULLOCK & JOHN WALSH	Libertarian RON VANDEVENDER & MARC MULCAHY	Republican RICK HILL & JON SONJU
Beaverhead	1,689	190	2,945
Big Horn	3,051	123	1,445
Blaine	1,788	80	989
Broadwater	1,104	110	1,800
Carbon	2,576	212	3,046
Carter	103	32	646
Cascade	19,138	1,262	14,164
Chouteau	1,266	94	1,470
Custer	2,246	211	2,926
Daniels	310	40	638
Dawson	1,537	162	2,712
Deer Lodge	3,188	171	1,119
Fallon	325	46	1,010
Fergus	2,084	232	3,726
Flathead	16,348	1,748	25,286
Gallatin	24,091	1,842	21,576
Garfield	107	22	573
Glacier	3,071	174	1,200
Golden Valley	156	18	309
Granite	628	80	988
Hill	3,969	278	2,583
Jefferson	2,796	240	3,502
Judith Basin	450	32	743
Lake	6,364	591	6,317
Lewis & Clark	19,775	900	12,826
Liberty	395	34	573
Lincoln	2,920	442	5,487
Madison	1,509	176	2,846
McCone	286	39	676
Meagher	324	38	612
Mineral	856	135	1,026
Missoula	35,557	2,107	19,454
Musselshell	671	146	1,577
Park	4,197	371	4,198
Petroleum	62	6	231
Phillips	652	86	1,475
Pondera	1,192	90	1,439
Powder River	207	27	785
Powell	1,146	106	1,545
Prairie	216	22	470
Ravalli	8,601	906	12,647
Richland	1,206	190	3,247
Roosevelt	2,182	121	1,334
Rosebud	1,692	122	1,706
Sanders	2,055	349	3,517
Sheridan	782	60	1,062
Silver Bow	12,046	580	4,188
Stillwater	1,634	163	2,894
Sweet Grass	623	65	1,434
Teton	1,345	113	1,838
Toole	776	91	1,244
Treasure	168	31	258
Valley	1,708	169	1,979
Wheatland	338	33	622
Wibaux	142	24	370
Yellowstone	32,802	2,428	33,606
Total	236,450	18,160	228,879



Linda McCulloch
MONTANA SECRETARY OF STATE

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- [2012 Proposed Ballot Measures](#)
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Political parties must meet certain statutory requirements in order to nominate candidates for the ballot in Montana. A party automatically qualifies for the ballot if it had a candidate for statewide office in either of the last two general elections and that candidate received a total number of votes that was 5 percent or more of the total number of votes cast for the successful candidate for governor.

If a political party does not meet that requirement, it may qualify to nominate its candidates by circulating a petition requesting a primary election. The [petition](#) must be in a form prescribed by the Secretary of State and must include an [Affidavit of Petition Signature Gatherer](#).

Please contact the Secretary of State's office at 406-444-5346 or contact the elections division at soselections@mt.gov for more information.

Currently Qualified Political Parties

Current as of 1/21/2015

Democratic Party

P.O. Box 802
Helena, MT 59624
(406) 442-9520
Fax: (406) 442-9534

Libertarian Party

P.O. Box 4803
Missoula, MT 59806-4803
(406) 721-9020

Republican Party

P.O. Box 935
Helena, MT 59624
(406) 442-6469
Fax: (406) 442-3293