

# Montana House of Representatives



**REPRESENTATIVE GARY MacLAREN**  
HOUSE DISTRICT 89

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*The Big Sky Country*

COMMITTEES:  
LOCAL GOVERNMENT - CHAIRMAN  
STATE ADMINISTRATION  
FEDERAL RELATIONS, ENERGY,  
AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

May 12, 2011

Legislative Council  
Re: HJ 33 – Health Insurance Exchange

Dear Council Members,

The staff recommendation for assignment of HJ 33 is to the EAIC. I agree with this recommendation in that the subject is primarily an insurance issue, which falls under the purview of the EAIC. The staff report also proposes that input will be needed from DPHHS, Department of Administration, and Department of Revenue, all of which fall under the oversight of other committees.

Given the multi-discipline nature of the study, I would like to suggest that assignment to a Select Interim committee which would be composed of individuals from various committees, CFHHS, SAVA, RTIC, etc. Staff support for this could be drawn from those various committees.

If this does not seem to be a viable option, then perhaps a subcommittee of EAIC with membership from other committees, as described above. In this case, EAIC staff would be primary, with support from other committees. Actual deployment of staff should, of course be left to the discretion of LSD staff.

I believe either of these options would provide for broader input from Interim committees, which would be reflective of the broad base of the stakeholder group envisioned for this study.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gary".

Gary MacLaren  
Representative HD 89

Legislative Council  
May 13, 2011

Exhibit 2

**Fox, Susan**

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**From:** Bob Lake [lakemill@montana.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 12, 2011 10:06 AM  
**To:** Fox, Susan  
**Subject:** Legislative council meeting

Susan

I will not be able to attend the Leg. Council mtg. but would like to have my remarks concerning SJR 28 distributed to the members. SJR 28 requests a study of a Performance Based funding formula for Montana schools. Several different versions of the concept are being enacted in other states and the results should be available by the time the Education and Local Govt. interim Committee begins the process. Montana, as well as many other states, are looking for ideas to make our education system, and the funding required to keep us competitive in the world market, more productive. The taxpayers who fund the system are asking for, and deserve, a system that provides a quality education at a affordable price. We need to look at all possible options. Performance Based Funding is simply another look at a potential method of reaching that goal.

I respectfully request that you accept SJR 28 as a worthy project for the Ed. Local Govt. Interim committee.

Sincerely,

Sen. Bob Lake  
Senate District 44

# Montana State Senate



**SENATOR ART WITTICH**  
SENATE DISTRICT 35  
GALLATIN COUNTY

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LOCAL GOVERNMENT  
FISH AND GAME

*The Big Sky Country*

May 9, 2011

Via US Mail

Legislative Service Division  
Attn: Dave Bohyer, Director  
Capitol Building  
PO Box 201706  
Helena, MT 59620-1706

*Re: Legislative Council Meeting*

Dear Council:

I will be unable to attend your May 13, 2011 meeting to establish the interim studies. Please accept these written comments in my absence.

I appreciate that SJR 20 (study to identify cost efficiencies in the Medicaid program), which I sponsored, received a relatively high rank of 9 by the legislative staff. Notably, the study includes more than simply "privatizing" Medicaid in Montana, but also is broad enough to exam all aspects of Medicaid administration, and how we may save costs in the future. Many states have embarked on novel programs that are saving money. Under a recent report by the Congressional Budget Office, it was estimated that Montana's share of increased costs under the federal Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act may be as high as \$175 million. Clearly, this is a good time to exam our programs, and how we may make them more effective and efficient in the future.

I appreciate your consideration on this important matter, and stand ready to conduct the study in the Children and Families Interim Committee, on which I am a member.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Art Wittich".

Senator Art Wittich