



# Law and Justice Interim Committee

## 59th Montana Legislature

PO BOX 201706  
Helena, MT 59620-1706  
(406) 444-3064  
FAX (406) 444-3036

**SENATE MEMBERS**  
BRENT CROMLEY  
JESSE LASLOVICH  
DANIEL MCGEE  
GARY PERRY  
JIM SHOCKLEY  
CAROL WILLIAMS

**HOUSE MEMBERS**  
GEORGE EVERETT  
JOHN PARKER  
DIANE RICE  
RON STOKER  
BILL WILSON  
JEANNE WINDHAM

**COMMITTEE STAFF**  
SHERI HEFFELFINGER, Lead Staff  
VALENCIA LANE, Staff Attorney  
FONG HOM, Secretary

### SCHEDULE FOR OPTIONAL COMMITTEE MEMBER TOURS AND BRIEFINGS

#### Wednesday, March 22, 2006

- 10:00 a.m. **Montana Legal Services Association and Pro Se Family Law Project, 2442 1st Ave. North:** Visit MLSA staff offices, meeting with MLSA staff and clients, **Mr. Klaus Sitte**, MLSA Executive Director, and staff
- 1:30 p.m. **Women's Prison, 701 S. 27th Street, Billings:**  
Tour and briefing by Department of Corrections, **Ms. Jo Acton**, Warden

#### Thursday, March 23, 2006

- 12:30 p.m. **Yellowstone County Family Drug Court, 13th Judicial District, 217 N. 27th Street**  
• Tour and briefing at the Yellowstone County Courthouse with the **Honorable Susan P. Waters**, Family Drug Court District Judge, **Ms. Becky Bey**, Coordinator, and members of the court team.
- 1:30 p.m. Committee members may observe Family Drug Court team meeting
- 3:00 p.m. Committee members may observe Family Drug Court session

LAW & JUSTICE INTERIM COMMITTEE  
PRO SE SUBCOMMITTEE  
MARCH 22, 2006 MEETING

ATTACHMENT #2

## MEETING AGENDA

### Meeting #6

#### **LAW AND JUSTICE INTERIM COMMITTEE** **Sheraton Billings Hotel, 27 N. 27th Street, Billings**

\* \* \* \* \*

**Wednesday, March 22, 2006**

**Sundance Room**

Pro Se Subcommittee: SJR 6 study of civil legal services for low income

- 4:00 p.m. Convene, secretary will note the role  
Approval of February 17, 2006, subcommittee minutes (if available)
- 4:35 p.m. Initial review and mark-up of the subcommittee's bill draft requested on February 17, 2006, to provide for a state Judicial Branch program on access to civil legal justice for *pro se* litigants, **Ms. Sheri Heffelfinger**, Legislative Staff
- Public Comment
- 6:00 p.m. Adjournment

**Thursday, March 23, 2006**

**Skytop Room**

Full Committee: SJR 40 study of county attorney services

- 7:15 a.m. Continental breakfast available for committee members in meeting room
- 7:30 a.m. Convene, roll noted  
Approval of January 19, 2006, minutes (meeting of full committee)
- 7:35 a.m. **Rep. John Parker:** Chairman's introductory remarks
- 7:45 a.m. **Ms. Sheri Heffelfinger:** Legislative staff overview of issues and decision points:
- County Attorney Salaries (10 min): statutes, how salaries are set, funding obligations, issues on the table for discussion, possible resolutions
  - County Attorney Caseload Data (5 min): Dept. of Justice plan for IT interface with Judicial Branch Full Court IT (*Mr. Bill Griffenberg, DOJ, IT Division*)
  - State Crime Lab (7 min): staff, funding, current issues (*Mr. Larry Fasbender*)
  - Prosecution Services Bureau, Attorney General's Office (7 min): Department of Justice Executive Budget Proposal (*Mr. Larry Fasbender*)

(more)

**MEETING AGENDA**  
**Meeting #6**

**LAW AND JUSTICE INTERIM COMMITTEE**  
**Sheraton Billings Hotel, 27 N. 27th Street, Billings**

\* \* \* \* \*

- 8:15 a.m.      **Stakeholder panel:** Discussion about whether and how committee legislation may address the policy and funding issues related to: (1) salaries, (2) caseload data, (3) state crime lab services, and (4) the Prosecution Services Bureau
- Montana County Attorney Association  
            -- **Mr. Fred Van Valkenburg**, Missoula County Attorney, MCAA president  
            -- **Mr. Mike Weber**, Richland County Attorney, Vice-President, MCAA
  - Montana Association of Counties  
            -- **Ms. Sheryl Wood**, Associate Director
  - Attorney General's Office/Department of Justice  
            -- **Attorney General Mike McGrath**  
            -- **Mr. Larry Fasbender**, Deputy Director  
            -- **Mr. Bill Griffenberg**, Administrator, Information Technology
- 9:15 a.m.      Break
- 9:30 a.m.      **Ms. Sheri Heffelfinger:** Staff Update on County Public Defender Audits, Public Defender Commission Activities, Role of LJIC (*5 minutes*)  
**Ms. Angie Lang:** Legislative Audit of County Public Defender Offices (*10 minutes*)
- 9:45 a.m.      Public Comment
- 10:15 a.m.     **Rep. John Parker, Chairman -- committee work session:** actions and instructions to staff on bill drafts, if any, to be developed for the committee's further consideration
- 11:00 p.m.     Working lunch catered
- 12:00 noon     Adjournment