

Rail Service Competition Council

<http://rsc.mt.gov/default.asp>

Statutory Citation: Section 2-15-2511, MCA

The duties of the Rail Service Competition Council are to:

- promote rail service competition that results in reliable and adequate service at reasonable rates;
- develop a comprehensive and coordinated plan to increase rail service competition;
- reevaluate the state's railroad taxation practices to ensure reasonable competition while minimizing any transfer of tax burden;
- develop various means to assist Montanans impacted by high rates and poor rail service;
- analyze the feasibility of developing legal structures to facilitate growth of producer transportation investment cooperatives and rural transportation infrastructure authorities;
- provide advice and recommendations to the Department of Transportation;
- coordinate efforts and develop cooperative partnerships with other states and federal agencies to promote rail service competition;
- act as the state's liaison in working with Class I railroads to promote rail service competition; and
- promote the expansion of existing rail lines and the construction of new rail lines.

Membership

The council consists of the following members:

- the director of the Department of Agriculture;
- the director of the Department of Transportation;
- the director of the Department of Revenue;
- the Chief Business Development Officer of the Office of Economic Development;
- Seven people appointed by the Governor with the following qualifications:
 - ▶ one person with substantial knowledge and experience related to Class I railroads;
 - ▶ one person with substantial knowledge and experience related to Class II railroads;
 - ▶ one person who is a farm commodity producer in the state and who has substantial knowledge and experience related to transportation of farm commodities;
 - ▶ one person with substantial knowledge and experience in the trucking industry in the state;
 - ▶ one person with substantial knowledge and experience related to transportation for the mineral industry in the state;

- ▶ one person with substantial knowledge and experience related to transportation for the coal industry in the state;
- ▶ one person with substantial knowledge and experience related to transportation for the wood products industry in the state; and
- two members from the Economic Affairs Interim Committee, one from the majority party and one from the minority party and one from each house of the Legislature, selected by the presiding officer of the committee with the concurrence of the vice presiding officer.

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

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