

Interstate Organizations

1. Interstate, International, and Intergovernmental Cooperation

Statutes: 5-11-303 through 5-11-305

Organizations: None specifically mentioned in statutes. By practice, they include the following:

- Council of State Governments (CSG). Participation has included CSG-West and the Council of River Governance.
- National Conference of State Legislatures.

Members: Appointed by Legislative Council with recommendations from the president, speaker and minority leaders of each house. (5-11-305, MCA.) See Appendix.

Dues: No mention in statute.

- CSG is funded through entrepreneurial efforts that include Publication Sales, Conference Revenue, CSG Associates, Contributions and Investment Income (29%), Grants (28%), State Appropriations (43%)
- NCSL article III, Section 1. of the NCSL Bylaws: Payment of properly established membership dues shall be a condition of participation by legislators and legislative staff within each of the member jurisdictions.

Compensation: If funds are available that the legislative council has the authority to expend, the legislative council, as the appropriate funding authority, may authorize that a legislator appointed as a member to an interstate, international, or intergovernmental entity be compensated, as provided in 5-2-302, for salary and expenses associated with participating in an entity-sponsored activity. (5-11-305 (4), MCA.)

2. Pacific Northwest Economic Region

Statutes: 5-11-705 through 5-11-708, MCA.

Members: Appointed by President, Speaker, Minority leader of each house: Rep. Grinde, Rep. Bennett, Sen. Zinke, Sen. Gillan

5-11-305 (6) The legislative council shall make appointments to any policy committee established by the Pacific Northwest economic region as provided in 5-11-707(2).

Dues: No mention in statute

Compensation: Legislative members appointed to the Pacific Northwest Economic Region under 5-11-707 are entitled to compensation as provided in 5-2-302.

3. National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws (NCCUSL)

Statutes: Montana Commission on Uniform State Laws: 1-12-101 through 1-12-104, MCA.

Members: E. Edwin Eck, Joseph P. Mazurek, Gregory J. Petesch, Karen E. Powell, Michael E. Wheat

Three recognized members of the Bar or members of the faculty of the Law School of the University of Montana and any resident of the 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. Appointed by the Legislative Council for 4 year terms or until a successor is appointed.

Dues: No mention in statute. The major portion of financial support for the NCCUSL comes from state appropriations. Expenses are apportioned among the states by means of an assessment based on population. The Conference gets maximum results from a minimum budget because its major asset, drafting expertise, is donated. The only compensation for commissioners is the satisfaction derived from solving important legal problems.

Compensation: Each commissioner shall attempt to attend the meeting of the NCCUSL. Commissioners shall serve for no salary and are entitled to reimbursement for expenses as provided in 2-18-501.

Other references

2-18-501. Meals, lodging, and transportation of persons in state service.

5-2-302. Compensation and expenses when legislature not in session. When the legislature is not in session, a member of the legislature, while engaged in legislative business with prior authorization of the appropriate funding authority, is entitled to:

- (1) a mileage allowance as provided in 2-18-503;
- (2) expenses as provided in 2-18-501 and 2-18-502; and
- (3) a salary equal to one full day's pay at the rate described in 5-2-301(1) for each 24-hour period of time (from midnight to midnight), or portion of a 24-hour period, spent away from home on authorized legislative business. However, if time spent for business other than authorized legislative business results in lengthening a legislator's stay away from home into an additional 24-hour period, the legislator may not be compensated for the additional day.