

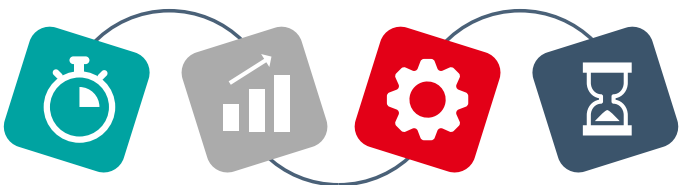
The Interim: Is it what you want?

Legislators Speak Up

In the fall of 2019, the Legislative Services Division emailed a survey about interim activities to 150 current legislators.*



Survey
Summary
January
2020



*92 Responded (61%)

66 I want to serve on at least one interim committee.

95%

somewhat or strongly **AGREED.**

2019-2020:

87% serve on at least one interim committee,

BUT...

2019 Legislature added 16 Representatives on 8 interim committees

One-time cost of \$67,000

AVERAGE COST:

8-member committee

\$37,000

10-member committee

\$45,000

12-member committee

\$53,000

16-member committee

\$94,000



66 I want each of my interim committees to meet at least 8 times.

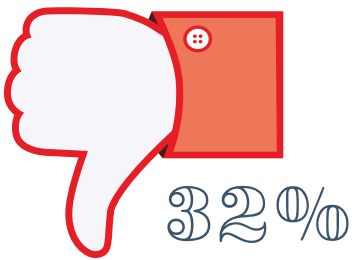
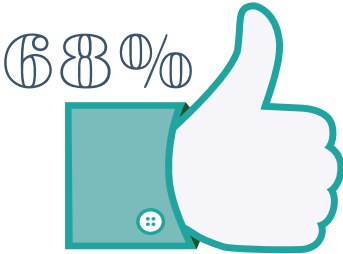
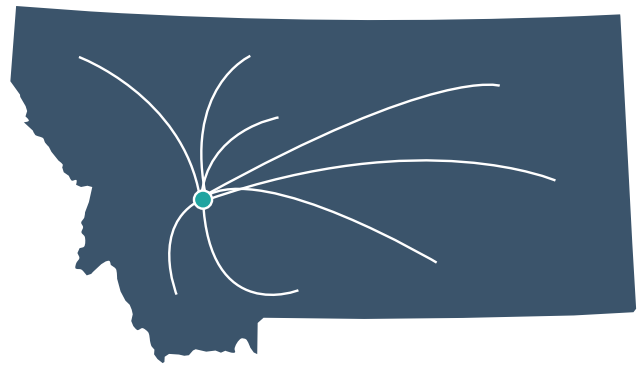


somewhat or strongly **AGREED.**

Average cost of 1 day meeting of 8 members = \$4,300



66 I want each of my interim committees to meet at least one time an interim outside of Helena.



Every interim, a few interim committees will hold a meeting outside Helena or take a field trip to an area of interest to the committee.

Out of town meeting considerations:

- Facility cost
- Adequate seating for members, staff, public
- Adequate light and sound for audio and video recording
- Ability of facility to support live-streaming
- Availability of food for meals and breaks
- Adequate lodging for members, staff, executive branch representatives
- Travel of Helena-area agency personnel
- Notification of local lawmakers, other officials, and public

Field trip considerations:

- Cost of transportation
- Accessibility for members of public and media
- Travel time as part of committee workload
- Coordination with private and public entities

66 I want arranged tours of state facilities during the interim. (Prisons, laboratories, colleges, energy facilities, etc.)

Wish you were here!
Learning lots!!



Somewhat or Strongly
AGREE

21%

“See you soon!”

33%

“Yeah...maybe.”

32%

“Nah...maybe not.”

14%

“No.”

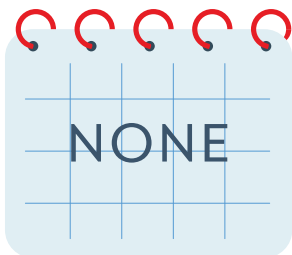
66 I want staff to travel to my area to provide briefings on multiple topics at least once an interim.

Road Trip!



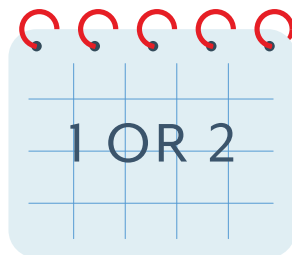
Hybrid sedan from State Motor Pool.
Three days + 600 miles = \$114.

6 The most days a month I'm able to commit to organized interim activities such as committee meetings, tours, and staff briefings is:



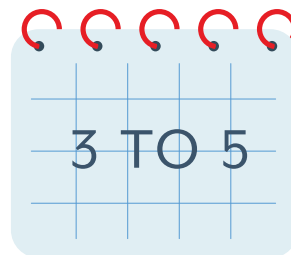
NONE

3%



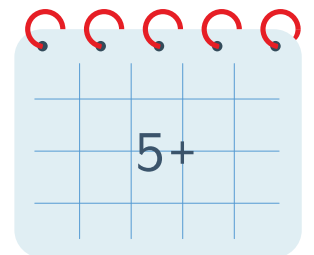
1 OR 2

37%



3 TO 5

43%



5+

17%



Legislator Day:

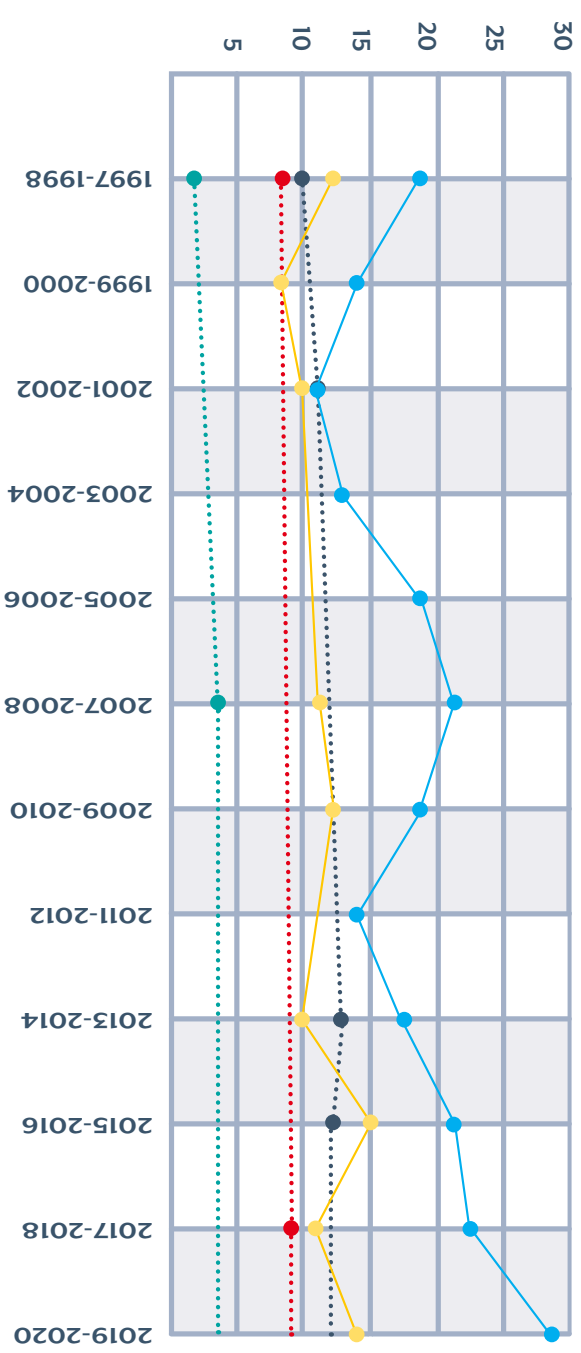
Mileage = 58¢ per mile

Salary = \$92

Three Meal Allowance = \$30.50

Staffing Considerations

- The addition of studies, meeting days, out of town trips, and members may increase staff duties
- Committees may need to further prioritize studies, agency oversight, and committee interests
- Additional staffing would require funds and office space



LEGEND

- Studies Assigned
- Committees
- Researchers
- Attorneys
- Support Staff