



## Economic Affairs Interim Committee

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### 64th Montana Legislature

#### SENATE MEMBERS

GORDON VANCE--Vice Chair  
TOM FACEY  
RICK RIPLEY  
LEA WHITFORD

#### HOUSE MEMBERS

RYAN LYNCH--Chair  
MIKE LANG  
NATE MCCONNELL  
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#### COMMITTEE STAFF

PATRICIA MURDO, Lead Staff  
JAMESON WALKER, Staff Attorney  
LAURA SHERLEY, Secretary

2/3/2016

## Economic Affairs Interim Committee Agenda

### February 4-5, 2016

#### Room 102 (NOTE ROOM CHANGE)

*Note: Some of the agenda items may take more or less time than indicated. All of the agenda items include time for questions by the committee members.*

### February 4, 2016, Meeting Agenda

- 9:30 a.m. Call to Order - Roll Call - Rep. Lynch, presiding officer  
Agenda and Materials Review - Pat Murdo, committee staff
- 9:35 a.m. **Assigned Studies -- HJR 29**  
Introduction to Insurance Factors and Overview of NCCI Data on Workers' Compensation  
-- Pat Murdo, committee staff
- Panel on Air Ambulance Company Memberships, Reciprocity, Network Participation, Balance Billing  
Bill Bryant, Sierra Health Group, for a coalition of Montana air ambulances  
Don Wharton, REACHAir (REACHAir took over Summit Air on Jan. 16, 2016)  
Ron Oldfield, St. Vincent's HELP Flight (by video)  
Cindy McFeely, Director of Finance, Airlift Northwest
- Panel on Insurance Issues Related to Air Ambulance Costs, Including Network Participation  
Ron Dewsnap, Allegiance President  
Paul Pedersen, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Montana  
Todd Lovshin, Pacific Source  
Dave Gibson, 3Rivers Communications, a self-insured company, using a TPA  
Marilyn Bartlett, Health Care Benefits Division Administrator, self-funded state group  
Connie Welsh, Montana University System Health Plan
- Public Comment
- 11:15 a.m. Committee Discussion of Next Steps on HJR 29 -- **Committee Action**
- 11:30 a.m. **Agency Monitoring -- State Auditor's Office**  
Overview of Agency's 2014-2015 Activities  
--Jesse Laslovich, Chief Counsel for Commissioner Monica Lindeen
- Closeout of Insure Montana program and Montana Comprehensive Health Association  
--Jesse Laslovich, Chief Counsel for Commissioner Monica Lindeen
- Public Comment
- 12:00 p.m. Lunch

- 1:00 p.m. **Agency Monitoring -- Board of Livestock**  
Introduction of New Executive Officer of Department of Livestock, Mike Honeycutt
- Department of Livestock Budget Review, Report on Activities  
-- John Scully, Board Vice Chair, and George Harris, Central Services Administrator
- Update on InterAgency Bison Management Plan for Yellowstone National Park  
-- Sen. Gordon Vance
- Discussion on [Milk Assessment Proposed Rule](#) (amending 32.2.406) and EAIC request to delay assessment  
-- Jameson Walker, EAIC staff attorney, reviewing committee objection, options  
-- Department representatives
- Public Comment on milk assessment rule
- Committee Action** on whether to retain or lift request to delay rule implementation
- 2:15 p.m. **Member / Emerging Topics -- Economic Development / Broadband**  
Overview of Broadband Investment Data for Montana -- Pat Murdo, committee staff
- Discussion on Government Role in Funding  
-- Geoff Feiss, Montana Telecommunications Association  
-- David Fine, City of Bozeman  
-- Marcy Allen, Missoula/Bitterroot  
-- Paul de Wolfe, consultant to Bozeman/Missoula broadband developments  
-- Russ Hendrickson, Montana Educational Technologists Association  
-- Dave Dobbins, Cascade Schools for rural Montana school districts
- Public Comment
- Next Step Recommendations by Committee
- 3:30 p.m. **Member Topics -- Joint Labor and University System Workforce Development**  
Introduction -- Pam Bucy, Commissioner of Labor and Industry
- John Cech, Montana University System
- Kirk Lacy, director of Industry Driven Workforce Development Partnerships  
--RevUp Program - Matt Springer, project director  
--HealthCareMontana Program - Kaye Norris, project director
- Public Comment
- 4:45 p.m. **Rule Review** - Jameson Walker, staff attorney
- 4:55 p.m. Public Comment on Any Issue within the Economic Affairs Interim Committee Purview
- 5:00 p.m. Recess until Feb. 5, 2016

(see next page)

**February 5, 2016, Meeting Agenda -- Room 102**

8:00 a.m. Call to Order - Roll Call - Rep. Lynch, presiding officer

8:05 a.m. **Member / Emerging Topics – Economic Development**

Overview of Economic Development Funding

-- John Rogers, Governor's Office of Economic Development

Specific Program Discussions/Examples

--Big Sky Economic Development Funding - Sean Becker, Dept. of Commerce

--Growth through Agriculture - Angie Nelson and Libbi Lovshin, Dept. of Agriculture

--Workforce Training Grants - Sean Becker, Dept. of Commerce

--Incumbent Worker Grants - Scott Eychner, Dept. of Labor and Industry Panel

Public Comment

11:00 a.m. **Agency Monitoring -- Department of Agriculture**

Agency Overview - Ron de Yong, Director

Board of Hail Insurance - Review

Public Comment

11:45 a.m. Directions to Staff. Recommendations on which advisory councils to review at next meeting, and what topics for future meetings

-- Adjourn

**Note:** **Public Comment:** \*Public comment provided in person to the committee is a public record that is videotaped, archived, and may be available on the Internet. Public comment submitted in writing at a committee meeting is a public record that will be posted to the legislative website as part of the minutes log for the committee meeting or made available upon request.

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\* \* \* \* \* ***This agenda may be subject to change.*** \* \* \* \* \*

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