



# Children, Families, Health, and Human Services Interim Committee

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67th Montana Legislature

## SENATE MEMBERS

CHRIS FRIEDEL  
JEN GROSS  
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## HOUSE MEMBERS

MARY CAFERRO  
JENNIFER CARLSON  
JANE GILLETTE  
DENNIS LENZ  
ED STAFMAN  
DANNY TENENBAUM

## COMMITTEE STAFF

SUE O'CONNELL, Lead Staff  
ALEXIS SANDRU, Staff Attorney  
FONG HOM, Secretary

## HOUSE BILL 39 WORKING GROUP AGENDA

November 19, 2021

Room 102, State Capitol/Zoom

*Please note: All times are tentative. Some items may take more or less time than scheduled.*

- 8:30 a.m.**      **1. Call to Order -- Roll Call – Overview of Agenda**  
*Rep. Dennis Lenz, Presiding Officer*
- 8:35 a.m.**      **2. Follow-up Items from October Meeting**
- a. Uses of Title IV-E Money – Erica Johnston, Executive Director, DPHHS Economic Security Services
  - b. PHC Facilitator Qualifications and Training – Sue O'Connell, Staff Researcher
  - c. ICWA Memo from John Guinn – Tom Billteen, Chief, Youth Court Services Bureau
  - d. Yellowstone County District Court EPS-Related Documents – Judge Jessica Fehr
- 9:00 a.m.**      **3. Discussion of PHC and EPS Hearing Logistics**
- a. Historical Court Statistics – Sue O'Connell, Staff Researcher
  - b. Multi-County Judicial Districts – Judge Luke Berger, Fifth Judicial District
- 9:45 a.m.**      c. County Attorney Perspectives
- i. Valley County Attorney Dylan Jensen
  - ii. Gallatin Deputy County Attorney Bradley Bowen
  - ii. Richland Deputy County Attorney Charity McLarty
  - iii. Cascade Deputy County Attorney Valerie Winfield
- 10:45 a.m.**      **BREAK**
- 11:00 a.m.**      d. Office of the State Public Defender Perspectives – Brian Smith, Administrator, Public Defender Division, Office of the State Public Defender
- e. DPHHS Perspectives – Nikki Grossberg, Acting Administrator, DPHHS Child and Family Services Division
  - f. CASA Perspectives – Kiersta Sullivan, Front Range CASA/GAL, Inc.
- 11:45**              **LUNCH**
- 12:45 p.m.**      **4. Public Comment\***

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- 1:15 p.m. 5. Roundtable Discussion**  
Working Group Identification of:  
a. Potential Statutory Changes  
b. ICWA Issues  
c. Other Issues to Address
- 2:00 p.m. 6. Next Steps**  
a. Research/Information Requests for Next Meeting  
b. Discussion of Next Meeting: Agenda Items and Date
- 2:15 p.m. 7. Adjournment**
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### **Public Participation in the HB 39 Working Group Meeting**

The November 19, 2021, meeting of the House Bill 39 Working Group is open to the public in the following ways:

- Members of the public may offer public comment during the meeting by:
  - attending in person at the State Capitol and offering public comment during the scheduled public comment period; or
  - testifying remotely by submitting the [online form for remote participation](#) by **5 p.m. on Thursday, November 18**. People who submit the form by the deadline will receive a meeting link before midnight on November 18.
- People may submit written public comment until **5 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 18**, either through the [online form for written comment](#) or by sending the comments to Sue O'Connell, P.O. Box 201706, Helena, MT 59620.
- The meeting will be streamed live on [www.leg.mt.gov](http://www.leg.mt.gov) and broadcast on the Montana Public Affairs Network (MPAN) for people who wish to view the meeting but not offer public comment. An archived recording of the meeting will also be made immediately available on [leg.mt.gov](http://leg.mt.gov).

At the time specified on the agenda for public comment, the presiding officer will call for public comment from people attending in person and people attending via Zoom. The committee may be slightly ahead of or behind the time scheduled for public comment on the agenda.

*\* Public comment provided in person or remotely at a committee meeting is a public record that is videotaped, archived, and available on the Internet. Public comment submitted in writing at a committee meeting is a public record that will be posted to the legislative Web site as part of the minutes log for the committee meeting.*

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The Montana Legislative Services Division will make reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities who wish to participate in this public meeting. For questions about accessibility or to request accommodation, please contact accommodation, please contact Jessica James of the Legislative Services Division at 406-444-3267 or [Jessica.James@mt.gov](mailto:Jessica.James@mt.gov) as soon as possible before the meeting date.