



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

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67th Montana Legislature

## SENATE MEMBERS

CHRIS FRIEDEL  
JEN GROSS  
THERESA MANZELLA  
MARY MCNALLY

## 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

### PRELIMINARY AGENDA

Oct. 12, 2021

Videoconference via Zoom

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

- 3:00 p.m.**      **1. Call to Order -- Roll Call**  
*Rep. Dennis Lenz, Presiding Officer, HB 39 Working Group*
- 3:05 p.m.**      **2. Introduction of Members and Staff**
- 3:15 p.m.**      **3. Administrative Matters -- Sue O'Connell, Committee Researcher**
- a. Budget/Travel Claims
  - b. Committee Procedures
  - c. Background Materials
    - i. Related Legislation: HB 39, HB 90, HB 503
    - ii. Montana Pre-Hearing Conference Study
    - iii. House Joint Resolution 48/49 Report
    - iv. HJR 48/49: Bill Draft Considerations
- 3:20 p.m.**      **4. Overview: Working Group Purpose and History – Rep. Lenz**
- 3:30 p.m.**      **5. Roundtable Discussion**
- a. Opportunities, Obstacles, and Considerations Related to Expansion of:
    - i. Prehearing Conferences
    - ii. Emergency Protective Services Hearings
  - b. Role of the Indian Child Welfare Act
  - c. Similar Laws or Programs in Other States
- 4:30 p.m.**      **6. Public Comment\***

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- 4:50 p.m.**      **7. Next Steps**  
a. Meeting Schedule  
b. Information Requests for Next Meeting

- 5 p.m.**          **8. Adjournment**
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### **Public Participation in the HB 39 Working Group Meeting**

The October 12, 2021, meeting of the House Bill 39 Working Group will be held by videoconference using Zoom and is open to the public in the following ways:

- 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).
- Members of the public may offer public comment remotely during the meeting by [registering online](#). People who sign up by **5 p.m. Mountain Daylight Time on Monday, Oct. 11** will receive a meeting link by late morning on Oct. 12.
- People may submit written public comment until **5 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 11**, 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 presiding officer will call for public comment at the time scheduled on the agenda. However, the committee may be slightly ahead of or behind the time schedule for public comment, so people registered to offer public comment should be prepared to speak earlier or later than the time listed 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 Lenore Adams at 406-444-4456 or [leadams@mt.gov](mailto:leadams@mt.gov) as soon as possible before the meeting date.