

Possible Amendment to EAIC Rules to Address Ballot Issue Review
Timelines

For consideration at the committee's September 2021 meeting

Page 1 of Legislative Council's Rules, Procedures, and Guidelines for Interim Committees would be amended to add a New Subsection G in the Quorums/Parliamentary Procedures Section:

QUORUMS/PARLIAMENTARY PROCEDURES

A. Meetings of legislative interim committees (committees) are held in the State Capitol unless designated by the presiding officer.

B. Regular meetings are publicly noticed 10 days prior to each meeting.

C. Public notice includes posting to the Legislative Branch website the time, location, and agenda of meetings, disseminating the material to news media, committee members, and interested persons. Staff of the Legislative Services Division (LSD) shall maintain an updated mailing list of persons stating an interest in each committee's activities. Anyone who requests to be included on the mailing list must be included. If practical and feasible, notice may also be given by U.S. mail, email, fax, or other means.

D. A majority of members at any meeting or the presiding officer may call a special meeting with at least 24-hour notice to the members. A special meeting may not include agenda items that require a public hearing.

E. Meetings of committees and subcommittees are conducted under the established rules of the Montana Senate as to quorums and parliamentary procedure.

F. Meetings may provide for remote meeting participation by members and the public.

G. A meeting concerning an interim committee's review of a ballot issue is not considered a regular or special meeting. A meeting concerning an interim committee's review of a ballot issue may be convened by the presiding officer upon notice appropriate to the circumstances. If the meeting is scheduled with less than 3-days' notice, the committee chair shall use all practical means to disseminate notice of the hearing to the public.