



Court System For Dependency & Neglect Task Force

68th Montana Legislature

SENATE MEMBERS

ELLIE BOLDMAN
DENNIS LENZ

HOUSE MEMBERS

JENNIFER CARLSON
SJ HOWELL

PUBLIC MEMBERS

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JESSICA FINLEY
RACHEL GREEN
NIKKI GROSSBERG
JON KADNER
HON. RIENNE MCELYEA
JENNIFER OWEN

COMMITTEE STAFF

GRIFFIN BURNS, Research Analyst
JOLANDA SONGER, Secretary

DRAFT AGENDA

May 8, 2024

State Capitol, Room 172 and Zoom

PLEASE NOTE:

- All times are approximate; some items may take more or less time than allotted.
- The agenda may be adjusted at the discretion of the presiding officer.
- See page 3 of this agenda for information on accessibility and public participation.

9:00 a.m. **Call to Order and Roll Call**

Chair Dennis Lenz

9:05 a.m. **1. Updated District Court Caseload and Workload Statistics**

Griffin Burns – Research Analyst, Legislative Services Division

- Presentation
- Public comment on statistics
- Task force questions and discussion

09:30 a.m. **2. Court System Costs and Related Fiscal Information Update**

Kate Flavin – Fiscal Analyst, Legislative Fiscal Division

- Presentation
- Public comment on court system costs
- Task force questions and discussion

10:00 a.m. **3. Incarcerated Parents Reunification Programs**

Cynthia Wolken – Montana Department of Corrections

- Presentation
- Public comment on DOC Programs
- Task force questions and discussion

11:00 **Lunch**

12:30 p.m. **3. Dependency and Neglect Prosecution Considerations**

Karen Kane – Assistant Attorney General, Montana Department of Justice

- Presentation

- Public comment on prosecution considerations
- Task force questions and discussion

1:30 p.m. **4. Office of Child and Family Ombudsman (OCFO) Responsibilities and Services**
Dana Toole – Special Services Bureau Chief, Montana Department of Justice

- Presentation
- Public comment on OCFO services
- Task force questions and discussion

2:30 p.m. **5. Public Comment** on any matter within the scope of the task force not on this agenda

2:45 p.m. **Break**

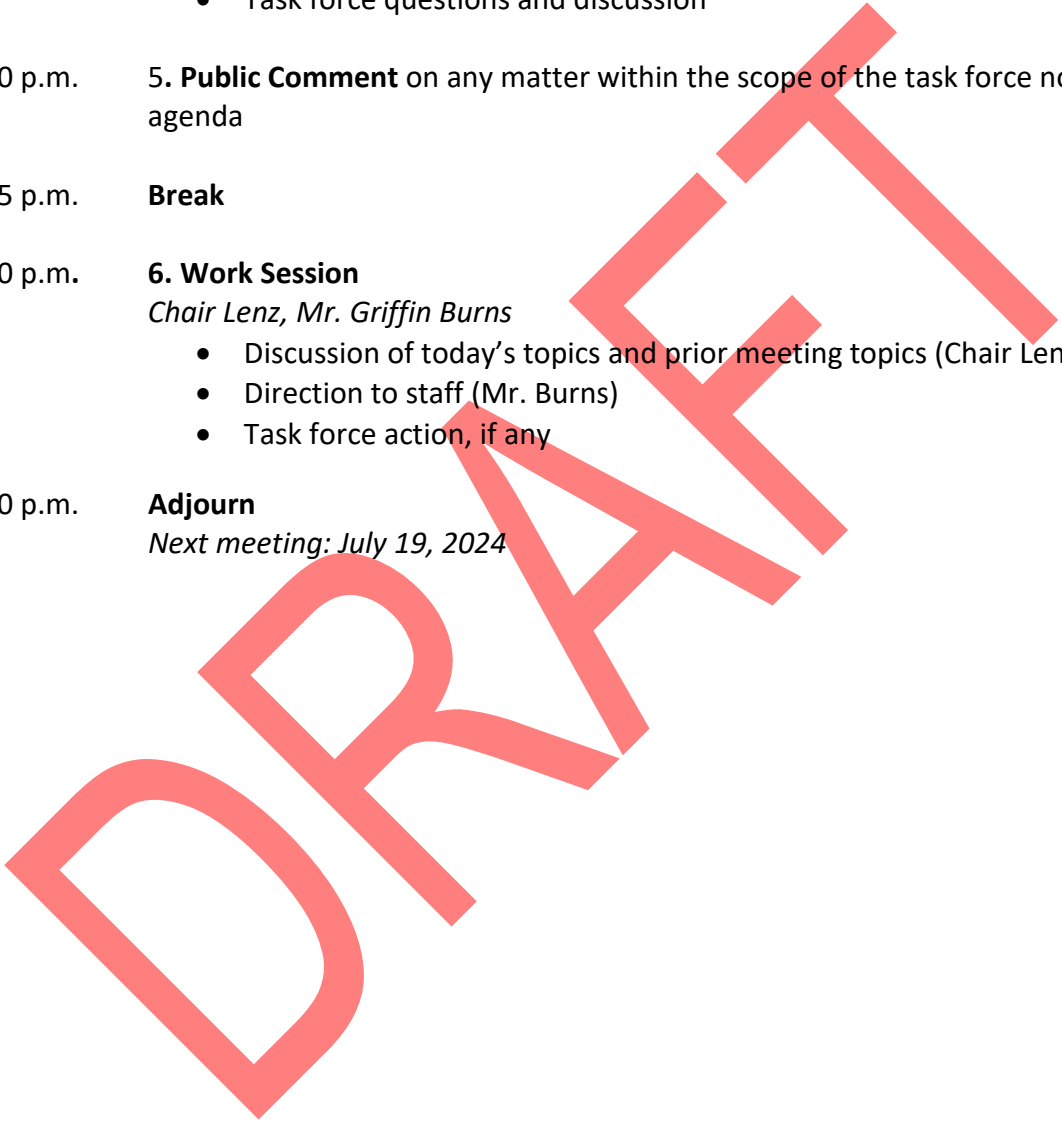
3:00 p.m. **6. Work Session**

Chair Lenz, Mr. Griffin Burns

- Discussion of today's topics and prior meeting topics (Chair Lenz)
- Direction to staff (Mr. Burns)
- Task force action, if any

3:30 p.m. **Adjourn**

Next meeting: July 19, 2024



TASK FORCE MATERIALS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Download meeting materials, view a list of committee members, and sign up for meeting notices on the task force website: <https://leg.mt.gov/committees/other-groups/court-system-dependency-neglect-task-force/>

ACCESSIBILITY

The Montana Legislative Services Division will make reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities who wish to participate in this public meeting. Please contact Dan Messerli to request accommodations as soon as possible:

Dan Messerli
(406) 444-4456
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PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Deadline for written public comment and remote testimony registration: March 13, 5:00 p.m.

The public may attend the meeting and offer public comment in the Capitol, remotely via Zoom, or in writing. The presiding officer will announce opportunities for public comment. Please note that the council may be ahead or behind the agenda when it is time for public comment.

To testify remotely, register online by 5:00 p.m. the business day before a meeting. You will receive an email the with login information by 11:59 p.m. the night before the meeting.

<https://leg.mt.gov/committees/other-groups/court-system-dependency-neglect-task-force/remote-participation-csdn-task-force/>

Written comments may be mailed or sent via the online form. Comments provided by 5:00 p.m. the business day before a meeting will be provided to the committee at that meeting; comments received after this deadline will be distributed at the next meeting.

Online form for written comment: <https://leg.mt.gov/committees/other-groups/court-system-dependency-neglect-task-force/public-comments-csdn-task-force/>

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