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Economic Affairs Interim Committee

68th Montana Legislature

SENATE MEMBERS

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COMMITTEE STAFF

ERIN SULLIVAN, Lead Staff
JAMESON WALKER, Staff Attorney
LJ JENNINGS, Secretary

AGENDA

Monday, March 4, 2023

Room 137, State Capitol

Agenda times are approximate. Some items may take more or less time than is indicated

1:00 Call to Order – Roll Call – Opening Remarks – Rep. Josh Kassmier, Presiding Officer

1:05 Agriculture Topic: Ag Data Privacy (Tab 2)

1. Presenters:
 - a. Walter Schweitzer, President, Montana Farmers Union
 - b. Ken Wheeler, CEO, Frontline Ag Solutions / John Deere
 - c. Brion Torgerson, President, Torgerson's / Case
 - d. Nicole Rolf, Senior Director of Government Affairs, Montana Farm Bureau
2. Public comment*
3. Committee work session

2:30 Agency Oversight: Department of Commerce (DOC)

1. Paul Green, Director, DOC
2. Committee questions
3. Public comment*

2:45 BREAK

3:00 SJ30 Study on Viticulture – Value-added Agriculture Opportunities (Tab 3)

1. Topic 1: Department of Commerce Programs
 - a. Jenny Pelej, Brand MT Division Administrator, DOC
2. Topic 2: Workers Compensation Classification
 - a. Nick Mazanec, VP Legal Services, Montana State Fund
3. Topic 3: Funding
 - a. Dan Villa, Executive Director, Board of Investments

- b. Zach Coccoli, Deputy Director, Department of Agriculture (AGR)
- 4. Topic 4: Crop Insurance
 - a. Marni Walter, Risk Management Specialist, USDA Risk Management Agency
- 5. Public comment*
- 6. Committee work session

4:30 RECESS until March 5

AGENDA
Tuesday, March 5, 2023
Room 137, State Capitol

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9:00 Childcare & the Workforce (Tab 4)

1. Introduction of topics – Erin Sullivan
2. Topic 1: Regulations
 - a. Eric Copeland, Bureau Chief, Department of Labor & Industry
 - b. Toni Henneman, Deputy Research Director, LSD
3. Topic 2: Insurance
 - a. Frank Cote, Deputy Insurance Commissioner, State Auditor's Office (SAO)
4. Topic 3: Affordability & Accessibility Solutions
 - a. Eric Syverson, Senior Policy Specialist, National Conference of State Legislators
 - b. Bruno Showers, State Policy Manager, Children's Funding Project
 - c. Xanna Burg, Director, KIDS COUNT
5. Public comment*
6. Committee work session

11:00 BREAK

11:15 Committee Education: Bail Bond Industry (Tab 5)

1. Presentation on topic: Jameson Walker, Attorney, LSD
2. Stakeholder Comments:
 - a. John Looney, President, Montana Bail Agents Association
 - b. Frank Cote, Deputy Insurance Commissioner, SAO
3. Public comment*
4. Committee work session

12:00 Lunch

1:00 Administrative Rule Review (Tab 6)

1. Administrative rule report – Jameson Walker
2. Educational review on active supervision
3. Review of committee objections to rules
4. Public comment*
5. Committee work session

1:30 Committee Topic: Marijuana Policy Review (Tab 7)

1. Introduction of topic – Erin Sullivan
2. Stakeholder Comments:
 - a. Kristan Barbour, Division Administrator, Cannabis Control Division (CCD)
 - b. Brendan Beatty, Director, CCD
 - c. Kate Chowela, Government Affairs, Montana Cannabis Industry Association
 - d. Pepper Petersen, President, Montana Cannabis Guild
3. Public comment*
4. Committee work session

2:30 Committee work session

1. **Public comment*** on any item in EALC's subject matter jurisdiction
2. Directions to staff for agenda items for the next meeting (May 7-8, 2024)
3. **Wrap up and adjournment**

***Public Participation in the Committee Meeting**

To offer public comment via Zoom during the meeting, please submit the [online form for remote participation](#). You will receive an email with the login information by 5 p.m. the night before the meeting.

Written public comments may be submitted either through the [online form for written comment](#) or by mailing the comments to the Economic Affairs Interim Committee, PO Box 201706, Helena, MT 59620.

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

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