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Economic Affairs Interim Committee

68th Montana Legislature

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JAMESON WALKER, Staff Attorney
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AGENDA

Economic Affairs Interim Committee

November 14, 2023
State Capitol, Room 137 and Zoom

Please note:

- Instructions on how the public can participate in this meeting are on page 3.
- All agenda times are in Mountain Time and are tentative. Some items may take more or less time than scheduled.
- The order of presenters listed is subject to change.

9:30 a.m.

Call to Order – Roll Call – Opening Remarks

Representative Josh Kassmier, Presiding Officer

1. Overview of meeting agenda

9:35 a.m.

Childcare & the Workforce

1. Overview of topic & introduction of presenters: **Erin Sullivan**, Research Analyst, Legislative Services Division
2. Presentations:
 - a. **Amy Watson**, Interim State Economist, Department of Labor and Industry
 - b. **Tracy Moseman**, Early Childhood and Family Support Division Administrator, Department of Public Health & Human Services
 - c. Zero to Five Montana: **Caitlin Jensen**, Executive Director; **Rhonda Schwenke**, Program Director
 - d. **Xanna Burg**, KIDS Count Director, Montana Budget & Policy Center
 - e. **Rachel Wanderscheid**, Director, The Montana Afterschool Alliance
 - f. Office of Public Instruction: **Julie Murgel**, Chief Program Officer; **Michelle Cusey**, 21st CCLS Program Manager; **Carrie Kouba**, Innovation & Improvement Senior Manager
3. Public comment*
4. Committee questions & discussion
 - a. Committee action – next steps for study topic

12:00 p.m.

LUNCH

1:00 p.m.

SJ30 Study on Viticulture

1. Overview of topics & introduction of presenters: **Erin Sullivan**, LSD
2. Topic 1: Wine Production
 - a. **Alyssa Griffith**, Watchdog Winery, Vice President Montana Grape & Wine Association
 - b. **Zach Miller**, Superintendent, Montana State University / Western Agriculture Research Center
 - c. **Zach Coccoli**, Deputy Director, Department of Agriculture
 - d. **Peter Tyler**, Flynt Aero Vineyards, Member Montana Grape & Wine Association
 - e. **Steve Swanson**, Division Operating Officer, Alcoholic Beverage Control Division
3. Topic 2: Opportunities for Additional Wine Licenses
 - a. Winery Association of Montana: **Larry Robertson**, President; **Brian McGuire**, Secretary/Treasurer
 - b. **Peter Tyler**, Flynt Aero Vineyards, Member Montana Grape & Wine Association
 - c. **Alyssa Griffith**, Watchdog Winery, Vice President Montana Grape & Wine Association
4. Public comment*
5. Committee questions & discussion
 - a. Committee action – next steps for study

2:30 p.m.

BREAK

2:45 p.m.

Administrative Rule Review

1. Review of administrative rule memo: **Jameson Walker**, Attorney, Legislative Services Division
2. Public comment*
3. Committee questions & discussion
 - a. Committee action – if necessary

3:15 p.m.

Housing Study Topic: HB819 Monitoring

1. Overview of topic & introduction of presenters: **Erin Sullivan**, LSD
2. HB819 Overview: **Toni Henneman**, Research Analyst, Legislative Services Division
3. HOMES Program Update: **Dan Villa**, Director, Board of Investments
4. Department of Commerce Programs Update: **Cheryl Cohen**, Montana Housing Division Administrator; **Galen Steffens**, Community MT Division Administrator
5. Public comment*
6. Committee questions & discussion
 - a. Committee action – next steps for study

4:00 p.m.

Agency Oversight: Cannabis Control Division / Marijuana Study Topic

1. Topic 1: Synthetic Marijuana Task Force
 - a. **Kristan Barbour**, Division Administrator, Cannabis Control Division

2. Topic 2: Laboratory Testing
 - a. **Andre Umansky**, Scientific Director, Fidelity Diagnostics
 - b. **Kristan Barbour**, Division Administrator, Cannabis Control Division
3. Public comment*
4. Committee questions & discussion
 - a. Committee action – if necessary

4:45 p.m.

Committee Work Session

1. **Public comment*** on any item in EAIC's subject matter jurisdiction
2. Directions to staff for agenda items for the next meeting (**January 17, 2024**)
 - a. Update on March and May meeting dates
3. **Wrap up and adjournment**

***Public Participation in the Committee Meeting**

The public may attend the meeting and offer public comment in the Capitol or provide public comment either remotely via Zoom or in writing.

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. The committee may be slightly ahead of or behind the time scheduled for public comment on the agenda.

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.*

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 accommodations, please contact Jessica James at 406-444-3267 or jessica.james@legmt.gov as soon as possible before the meeting date