

# STATE ADMINISTRATION AND VETERANS' AFFAIRS LEGISLATION

## 2023 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

### ELECTIONS

#### BALLOTS & BALLOT ISSUES

**HB 543**      **Revise laws for ballot wording for bonds and levies**

- Requires the inclusion of the estimated additional property taxes imposed on a residence on the ballot for a bond election
- Requires the inclusion of a statement about rental costs on the ballot for a bond election and on the ballot for a mill levy election

**SB 56**      **Revising ballot initiative petition forms for consistency with the constitution**

- 2021-2022 SAVA Interim Committee bill
- Revises certain ballot initiative forms for consistency with the distribution requirements set by the Montana Constitution

**SB 93**      **Generally revising ballot issues**

- 2021-2022 SAVA Interim Committee bill
- Revises the submission and processing timelines for statewide ballot issues
- Clarifies substantive and procedural provisions related to ballot issues
- Reorganizes statutory provisions related to ballot issues
- Establishes a nonrefundable filing fee for ballot issues
- Prohibits the filing of a ballot issue that is substantially similar to a defeated ballot issues from the previous 4 years

**HB 335**      **Generally revise election laws related to absentee ballot list procedures**

- Clarifies the application process for absentee ballot
- Prohibits voters on the inactive list from being mailed an absentee ballot
- Establishes process for notifying voters before they are placed on the inactive list after the voter's ballot is returned as undeliverable

**SB 123**      **Require ballot for bond election to estimate additional taxes for residence**

- Requires the ballot for a bond election to include the estimated additional property taxes imposed on a residence valued at \$100,000, \$300,000, and \$600,000 in the first year
- Provides language for school district bond election ballots

**SB 498**      **Revise laws related to absentee ballots**

- Joint Select Committee on Election Security bill
- Requires absentee ballot lists to be included in annual voter registration list maintenance
- Establishes process for verifying an elector's address if any notices are returned as undeliverable

#### CAMPAIGN FINANCE

**HB 384**      **Allow hard copy campaign finance reports in certain circumstances**

- Revises when a candidate or political committee may provide their campaign finance reports in hard copy rather than through the online portal
- Clarifies that a candidate who timely files their report in hard copy may not be removed from the ballot

- SB 201**      **Revise judicial recusal laws when parties make campaign contributions**
- Allows any party to a proceeding to request that the judicial officer assigned to the proceeding be recused if an opposing party, attorney, or attorney's law firm representing an opposing party meets specific criteria
  - Provides criteria and definitions

- SB 393**      **Revise campaign finance laws**
- Removes requirement that campaign treasurers and deputy treasurers be registered voters
  - Adds requirement that campaign treasurers and deputy treasurers be residents of Montana
  - Clarifies reporting deadlines and removes requirement that an unopposed candidate file 48-hour reports
  - Provides exceptions for certain disclosure requirements related to 48-hour reports and debt
  - Revises reporting requirements for incidental committees

## **CANDIDATES**

- HB 306**      **Require candidates for office be registered to vote**
- Adds requirement that all candidates for office be registered to vote at the time of the filing deadline
  - Provides an exemption for candidates who will be 18 at the time of the election but not before the filing deadline

- HB 536**      **Revise laws related to write-in candidates**
- Requires all write-in candidates to file a declaration of intent

- SB 338**      **Revise election laws related to candidate filing fees**
- Requires all presidential candidates to pay a filing fee, not just those in a presidential preference primary

## **LOCAL ELECTIONS**

- HB 360**      **Revise election of county commissioners**
- Allows counties to elect commissioners by district if the county has a commission form of government

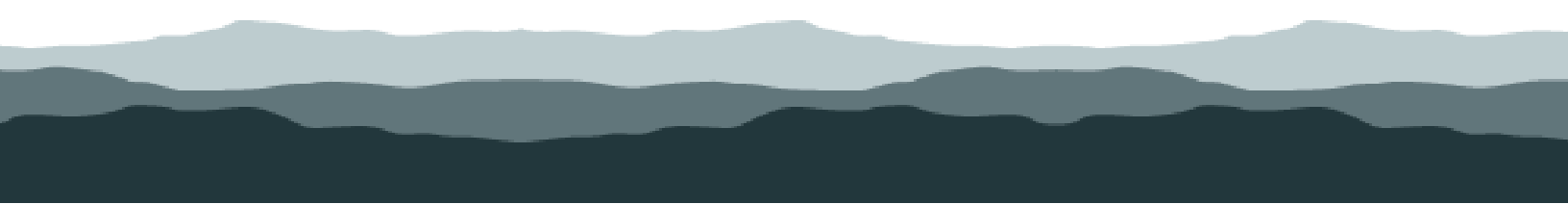
- HB 510**      **Revise certification timeline laws for city candidates**
- Aligns certification timeline for municipal candidates with state-level candidates

## **OTHER ELECTION-RELATED LEGISLATION**

- HB 186**      **Revise dates for special purpose elections**
- Allows a city, town, or consolidated city-county to schedule an election to create, dissolve, or continue a special purpose district on the same day as the general municipal election day

- HB 598**      **Prohibit use of ranked-choice voting methods**
- Prohibits the use of a ranked-choice voting method in any election conducted under Title 13 or Title 20 of the MCA

- HB 712**      **Prohibit illegal aliens from voting in Montana elections**
- Prohibits non-citizens from voting in the state of Montana



- HB 754**      **Allowing county election officials access to certain information**
- Allows the department of motor vehicles to release certain personal information to local government officials to verify voter registration information
- HB 892**      **Prohibit double voting**
- Prohibits voting in more than one election
  - Provides definitions and a penalty
- HB 947**      **Revise election laws**
- Reduces the statute of limitations for actions brought under sections 13-37-128 and 13-37-129 from 4 years to 2 years
  - Reduces the retention requirement for campaign account records from 4 years to 2 years
- SB 61**        **Clarify definition of election officials**
- Commissioner of Political Practices agency bill
  - Adds definitions of "election official" and "election worker"
- SB 117**      **Prohibiting use of certain funds for conducting an election**
- Requires that all costs and expenses related to conducting elections must be paid for with public funds and prohibits government entities from accepting, using, or disposing of a donation in the form of money, grants, property, or personal services from an individual or corporation, whether non-profit or for-profit, for the purpose of funding the functions or responsibilities of the county or municipality to conduct an election
  - Provides exceptions
- SB 322**      **Generally revise elections laws on organization/operation of committees**
- Clarifies that county and city central committees are not public agencies and their records are not public
  - Requires the central committee meetings to fill an election vacancy must be open to the public
  - Changes the name of county central committees to county conventions
- SB 432**      **Require a report on the use of Help America Vote Act funds**
- Requires an annual report from the Secretary of State to the SAVA Interim Committee on the distribution and use of HAVA funds

## **POST-ELECTION AUDITS**

- HB 172**      **Revise laws related to post-election audits**
- Allows boards of county commissioners to request a random-sample audit of voting systems after a non-federal election
  - Allows boards of county commissioners to add a countywide race to the post-election audit after a federal election
- SB 197**      **Revise and extend post-election audit process**
- Increases the number of races included in post-election audits

## **REDISTRICTING**

- SB 77**        **Generally revise laws related to redistricting data for inmates**
- Districting and Apportionment Commission bill
  - Revises the process used during redistricting related to incarcerated individuals so they are counted at their last known address if it was in Montana
- SB 86**        **Limiting the number of registered voters in each election precinct**
- Districting and Apportionment Commission bill

- Limits the size of a precinct to 2,500 registered voters and clarifies that counties don't need to adjust the size of a precinct other than after a census
  - Establishes process for precincts that exceed 3,750 between censuses
- SB 416**      **Revise timeline for changes to precinct boundaries after redistricting**
- Extends the timeline for changes to precinct boundaries after redistricting from 45 days to 90 days
- SJ 8**      **Joint resolution on redistricting**
- Provides recommendations from the Legislature to the Districting and Apportionment Commission

## **VOTING SYSTEMS AND VOTE TABULATION**

- HB 173**      **Revise laws related to security of vote tabulating machines**
- Requires voting system manufacturer to certify that all systems are free of any modems or other unauthorized external communication devices and requires a third-party tester to validate the manufacturer's certification
  - Requires counties to cover the cost of the third-party test and allows counties to conduct additional tests throughout the life of the voting systems
- HB 196**      **Revise election laws related to the counting of votes**
- Requires that any official vote count be open to the public, including resolution and counting areas
  - Requires that tabulation on election day must continue without adjournment until all available ballots that can be legally counted have been tabulated
  - Clarifies when and how county election administrators are supposed to report initial results to the public and to the Secretary of State's office

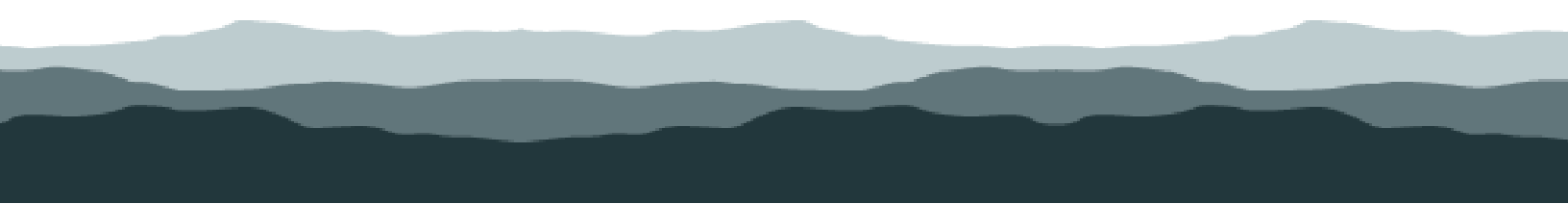
## **MILITARY & VETERANS' AFFAIRS**

### **DISASTER AND EMERGENCY SERVICES**

- HB 106**      **Revise laws related to federal mitigation funding**
- Department of Military Affairs agency bill
  - Allows the division of disaster and emergency services to accept hazard mitigation assistance grants from the federal government
- HB 107**      **Generally revise the duties of SERC**
- Department of Military Affairs agency bill
  - Aligns the responsibilities of the state emergency response commission with federal law
  - Revises the membership of the state emergency response commission
  - Moves some responsibilities from the commission to the division of disaster and emergency services in the interest of timely responses
  - Revises the requirements of the state disaster and emergency plan

### **MILITARY AFFAIRS**

- HB 63**      **Generally revise liability laws related to armed forces and national guard**
- Department of Military Affairs agency bill
  - Revises civil and criminal liability related to emergency care rendered at the scene of an accident or emergency for members of the armed forces and the Montana National Guard



- Provides affirmative defense in criminal actions of justifiable use of force in defense of military equipment and information

**HB 80**

**Adopt most recent federal military codes and regulations**

- Department of Military Affairs agency bill
- Adopts the most recent federal military laws, regulations, and codes applicable to the Montana National Guard

**HB 134**

**Revise laws related to the armory account**

- Department of Military Affairs agency bill
- Allows funds in the armory account to be used for project design

**HB 224**

**Revise vehicle registration law regarding military personnel**

- Extends certain incentives under the motor vehicle division to all military service members who are Montana residents

**HB 274**

**Revise civil air patrol funding**

- Removes termination date for the civil air patrol grants

**HB 336**

**Provide licensure exemptions for military family childcare providers**

- Provides state recognition for family child-care providers that are licensed by a branch of the U.S. Armed Forces

**HB 427**

**Revise military affairs laws regarding worker's compensation**

- Provides that members of the Montana National Guard are entitled to state worker's compensation while on state duty

**HB 545**

**Revise state laws to recognize creation of US Space Force**

- Recognizes the U.S. Space Force as a component of the U.S. Armed Forces
- Standardizes the order in which the U.S. Armed Forces components are listed

**HB 583**

**Revise occupations and education laws for military license reciprocity**

- Provides exemption from license renewal or late renewal fees and continuing education or certification requirements for active military personnel
- Provides certification and endorsement reciprocity and occupational licensing reciprocity for active military personnel, military spouses, and veterans

**SB 221**

**Allow USS Montana crew to apply for license plates**

- Allows a person currently serving or retired from serving aboard the USS Montana to be considered a Montana resident for the purpose of applying for a USS Montana specialty license plate

**MONTANA NATIONAL GUARD**

**HB 89**

**Revise laws related to Montana national guard life insurance and court martials**

- Department of Military Affairs agency bill
- Removes National Guard life insurance reimbursements
- Removes state income tax exemptions for service member life insurance premiums paid
- Repeals laws related to military courts and courts-martial

**SB 40**

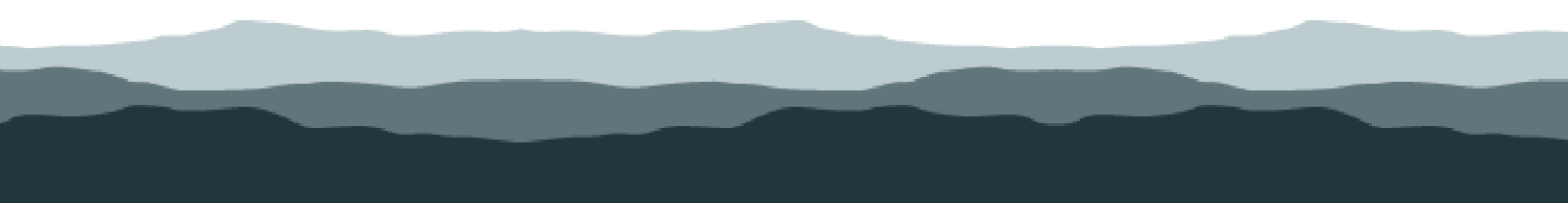
**Generally revise laws related to Montana national guard duty status**

- Department of Military Affairs agency bill
- Revises pay for National Guard members performing flying duties in support of a state declaration of emergency to be comparable to other state employees engaged in aerial wildfire suppression efforts

**SB 66**

**Generally revise laws related to Montana national guard benefit and rights**

- Department of Military Affairs agency bill



- Allows a service member on active duty to terminate any residential lease or service contract when ordered to a permanent duty station more than 60 miles away from their current residence
- Clarifies needs-based grants for service members and their family members

## **VETERANS' AFFAIRS**

- HB 81**      **Create new state veterans' cemetery**
- Department of Military Affairs agency bill
  - Creates a new state veterans' cemetery in Columbia Falls, MT
- HB 264**      **Establish decennial veterans' long term care needs study**
- Establishes a decennial veterans' long term care needs study after each census
  - Requires a report to the SAVVA Interim Committee
- HB 298**      **Revise board of veterans' affairs laws**
- Department of Military Affairs agency bill
  - Decreases the membership of the Board of Veterans' Affairs
- HB 325**      **Revise eligibility for disabled veteran property tax assistance program**
- Provides for continued eligibility in the disabled veteran property tax assistance program when unusual increases in income occur
  - Provides definitions
- HB 663**      **Establish a Montana veterans' hall of fame**
- Establishes the Montana Veterans' Hall of Fame
- HB 840**      **Revise tobacco tax allocation for state veterans' nursing homes**
- Increases the tobacco tax allocation for the operation and maintenance of state veterans' nursing homes
- HB 852**      **Provide for recognition of family members of deceased veterans**
- Creates a commemorative memorial coin for family members of eligible veterans
  - Provides definitions
- HJ 14**      **Acknowledge service of Korean War veterans**
- Resolution honoring and thanking all of the military veterans who served in the Korean War and listing the Montanans who served in and lost their lives the Korean War
- HR 3**      **Resolution to acknowledge service of Vietnam veterans**
- Resolution honoring and thanking all of the military veterans who served in the Vietnam War and listing the Montanans who served in and lost their lives in the Vietnam War
- SB 104**      **Exempt retired military pensions from state income tax**
- Exempts a portion of military pensions or retirement income and survivor benefits from state income taxation
  - Provides eligibility criteria
- SJ 17**      **Joint resolution recognizing veterans and military service**
- Resolution recognizing all Montanans who have served or are actively serving in the military
  - Declares 2023-2025 as the Era of Recognition and Commemoration of the Montana National Guard, Montana Army National Guard, Montana Air National Guard, U.S. Army Reserve, Marine Corps Reserve, U.S. Navy Reserve, and all active duty personnel
- SJ 18**      **Joint resolution recognizing MT 163<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Regiment**
- Resolution honoring the Montana 163<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Regiment

- Declares March 5, 2023, as the official date of recognition of the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Montana 163<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Regiment's victory in the Battle of Sanananda, Papua, New Guinea

**SJ 19**

**Joint resolution for Honor and Remember Medallion**

- Resolution honoring and remembering Warrant Officer Michael L. Bradley of Eureka, Montana

**PENSIONS**

**PUBLIC EMPLOYEE BENEFITS**

**HB 491**

**Provide for highway patrol meritorious service recognition**

- Allows the highway patrol chief to award a highway patrol officer the officer's badge, duty weapon, and handcuffs upon their retirement if specific criteria are met

**SB 18**

**Add benefit policy statement to pension systems**

- Requested by the 2021-2022 SAVA Interim Committee
- Adds the following statement to all pension system sections in the MCA: "It is the policy of the state that additional benefits may not be added to the [retirement system name] unless the system amortizes in 30 years or less and the additional benefit is projected to be fully funded in perpetuity."

**PUBLIC EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT SYSTEMS**

**HB 117**

**Generally revise working retiree laws under TRS**

- TRS agency bill
- Adjusts the compensation amount a retired member may receive while employed without having to adjust their retirement benefits
- Changes the break-in-service requirements for employees with a termination date after January 1, 2024
- Bill terminates June 30, 2027

**HB 135**

**Revised administrative provisions of TRS**

- TRS agency bill
- Establishes independent contractor status
- Clarifies duties of employers related to record keeping, earned compensation limits, the calculation of average final compensation, policies related to disabled retirees, and payments after the death of a retiree
- Revises and clarifies the process for transferring service credits and contributions from PERS

**HB 569**

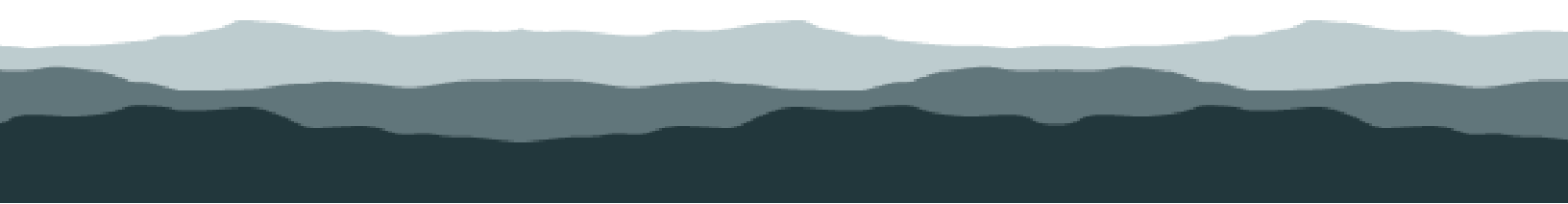
**Generally revise pension laws**

- Appropriates OTO funds to HPORS, SRS, and GWPORS to amortize the systems in 25 years
- Moves JRS, HPORS, SRS, and GWPORS to layered amortization policy
- Changes the retirement eligibility criteria for HPORS and SRS members hired on or after July 1, 2023

**SB 74**

**Revise administrative provisions of MPERA**

- MPERA agency bill
- Corrects interest paid upon redeposits of refunded contributions to actuarial assumed rate of return
- Allows for limited information sharing with employers



- Requires payment to the trust of a minor beneficiary
- Clarifies calculation of highest and final average compensation, the transfer and purchase of service credits from TRS, and the definition of sheriff related to SRS membership
- Allows members to voluntarily cancel a disability retirement benefit
- Provides time limit for board approval of late fire company annual certificates and training records

**SJ 4 Provide for interim study and PERS and TRS**

- Requested by the 2021-2022 SAVA Interim Committee
- Requests a study of PERS-DB and TRS that builds upon the findings and work of the HJ 8 study during the 2021-2022 interim and collaboration with the Legislative Finance Committee

**PUBLIC INVESTMENT LAWS**

**HB 228 Generally revise public investment laws**

- Prohibits the consideration of nonpecuniary factors in investment decisions by the Board of Investments
- Provides enforcement by the Attorney General

**STATE GOVERNMENT**

**APPOINTMENTS**

**SR 5 Confirm governor's appointees for the board of investments**

- Approves the appointment of Porter Bennett of Pony, Tom Kober of Butte, Daniel Trost of Helena, and Cindy Younkin of McAllister to the Board of Investments

**SR 49 Confirm governor's appointee for commissioner of political practices**

- Approves the appointment of Chris Gallus of Helena as the Commissioner of Political Practices

**SR 4 Confirm governor's appointee for the public employees' retirement board**

- Approves the appointment of Sonja Woods of Miles City to the Public Employees' Retirement Board

**BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, COUNCILS**

**HB 143 Revise laws related to the tourism advisory council**

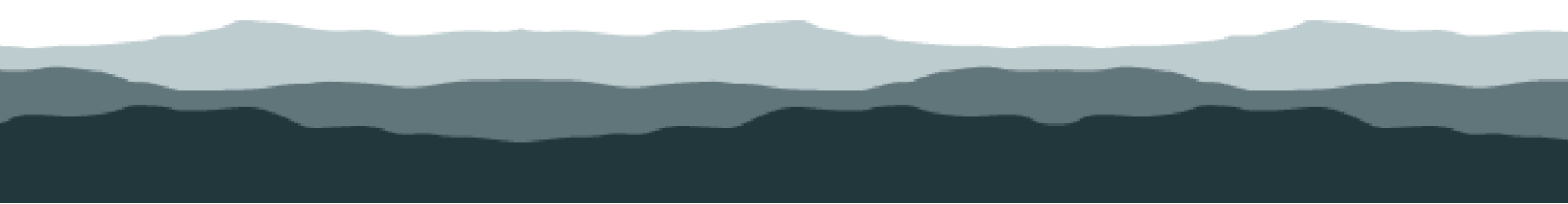
- Department of Commerce agency bill
- Reduces the membership of the Tourism Advisory Council from 12 members to 9 members

**HB 148 Revise information technology board membership**

- Department of Administration agency bill
- Revises the membership of the Information Technology Board, including Replacing the DOA Director with the CIO or designee as the presiding officer

**HB 281 Revise the burial preservation board member terms**

- Extends the term of service from 2 years to 4 years for members of the Burial Preservation Board





- HB 309**      **Revise voting requirements of quasi-judicial boards**
  - Changes the voting requirement of quasi-judicial boards from a majority of the entire committee/board/commission to a majority of a quorum
- HB 314**      **Revise compensation for members of boards, commissions, and councils**
  - Increases and standardizes compensation rates for boards, commissions, and councils
- HB 316**      **Generally revise laws related to advisory councils**
  - Allows advisory councils to meet anywhere in the state of Montana and remotely
- HB 529**      **Revise laws related to officials commissioned by the governor**
  - Reduces the number of officials commissioned by the Governor
- HB 660**      **Revise notification requirements regarding vacancies on appointed entities**
  - Requires all vacancies for state councils, boards, commissions, and committees be posted by electronic means

## **CAPITOL COMPLEX**

- HB 585**      **Creating a memorial honoring organ donors on the capitol complex**
  - Establishes a memorial for Montana's organ donors on the grounds surrounding the Capitol building
- HB 855**      **Provide for plaque or tribute commemorating Chuck Johnson**
  - Allows a plaque commemorating Charles S. Johnson, Montana's longest-serving statehouse reporter, to be placed in a state capitol complex building or on the grounds of the state capitol complex
- HB 856**      **Generally revise capitol complex administration laws**
  - Defining legislative space and executive branch space in the Capitol
  - Revises policies and procedures related to planning and use of space in the Capitol Building
- HB 920**      **Revise capitol complex laws recognizing US senator Thomas Carter**
  - Allows a bust commemorating Thomas Carter, Montana's last territorial congressional delegate and first U.S. Representative and U.S. Senator to be placed in the Capitol building
- SB 414**      **Renaming certain senate offices**
  - Renames the offices of the Secretary of the Senate in honor of Marilyn Miller

## **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

- HB 47**      **Generally revise the Montana Information Technology Act**
  - Department of Administration agency bill
  - Updates definitions and terminology
  - Revises policies related to software, the state network, and vendors
  - Gives the DOA authority to act in the event an agency is determined to be non-compliant with state security policies
  - Adds State Auditor to the list of exempted government entities
- SB 50**      **Generally revise laws related to data breach notification**
  - Department of Administration agency bill
  - Requires state agencies to immediately report a security incident to the chief information security officer
  - Defines "chief information security officer" and "security incident" in code
- SB 60**      **Establish enterprise fund for Montana spatial real time network**
  - State Library Commission agency bill

- Creates the Montana state reference network enterprise fund
- Authorizes the Montana state library to administer the state reference network

## LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

- HB 28      Increase legislator per diem reimbursements for lodging and meals**
- Legislative Council bill
  - Increases legislator per diem rates to make them commensurate with employees of the executive branch of the federal government
- HB 109      Code commissioner bill**
- Regular code commissioner clean-up bill
- HB 110      Making interim budget committees permanent**
- Legislative Finance Committee bill
  - Makes the interim budget committees permanent
  - Assigns staffing responsibilities to the legislative fiscal division
  - Prohibits interim studies from being assigned to interim budget committees
- HB 132      Modify timing of legislative audits**
- Legislative Audit Committee bill
  - Requires an annual audit of the statewide annual financial report
  - Gives the Legislative Auditor the authority to set the audit schedule for state agencies and provides a transition plan
- HB 140      Establishing modernization and risk analysis committee**
- Legislative Finance Committee bill
  - Makes the Modernization and Risk Analysis (MARA) Committee permanent
  - Assigns staffing responsibilities to the legislative fiscal division
  - Sets terms of service, membership size, and presiding officer criteria
- HB 150      Revise legislative constituent services allowance laws**
- Revises laws related to legislative constituent services allowances, stipends, and reimbursements
- HB 167      Revise laws related to legislative leadership exempt staff**
- Legislative Council bill
  - Allows legislative leadership exempt staff to use public time, facilities, equipment, supplies, personnel, or funds to support non-election political caucus activity regarding legislative business in the normal course of duties as directed by legislative leadership
- HB 400      Require agency reports to legislature to be in writing**
- Requires that all required reports be submitted to the legislature in writing and removes the option for oral reports
- HB 845      Provide electronic Montana code annotated to state employees at cost**
- Provides that a state government agency is entitled to electronic copies of the MCA at a reduced cost
- SB 128      Generally revise laws relating to legislative exempt personal staff**
- Allows legislative leadership exempt staff to assist legislators in expressing opinions on statewide ballot issues
- SB 176      Revise interim and statutory committee membership**
- Changes the makeup of interim committees and other statutory committees to reflect the majority and minority composition of the legislature
  - Sets a limit on the number of partisan bills an interim committee may request

- HB 387**      **Generally revise constituent accounts**
  - Reaffirms that money in a constituent account may not be sued for campaign expenditures
- HB 493**      **Generally revise constituent services account laws**
  - Changes the name of "constituent accounts" to "continuing service accounts"
  - Requires that any loans owed must be paid back, not forgiven, before a continuing service account may be created and funded

## PROCUREMENT

- HB 151**      **Generally revise building construction procurement laws**
  - Department of Administration agency bill
  - Raises the cost threshold for legislative approval on construction activities
  - Requires an annual report from DOA to the Legislature on all buildings constructed without legislative approval that cost between \$150,000 to \$300,000 during the previous fiscal year
  - Authorizes DOA to negotiate a contract without a competitive bidding process in the case of an emergency or public exigency
- HB 232**      **Allow DOA to enter into leases for consolidation purposes w/o LRBP approval**
  - Allows DOA to enter into leases for the purpose of consolidation and cost savings without requiring LRBP approval
- HB 573**      **Remove contracts under MT Community Service Act from MT Procurement Act**
  - Exempts contracts under the Montana Community Service Act from the Montana Procurement Act regardless of the dollar amount
- SB 51**        **Generally revise procurement**
  - Department of Administration agency bill
  - Revises the opening, submission, and inspection of bids and proposals
  - Revises public comment timeline
- SB 483**      **Generally revising alternative project delivery laws**
  - Revises laws related to public/private construction projects

## STATE GOVERNMENT

- HB 56**        **Extend the application of the bond validating act**
  - Department of Administration agency bill
  - Extends the application of the bond validating act
- HB 91**        **Revise laws related to public library state aid**
  - State Library Commission agency bill
  - Adds accredited tribal college libraries to the definition of public library
  - Increases the annual per capita funding to public libraries for each fiscal year from 40 cents to 50 cents
  - Extends the termination date from 2023 to 2029
- HB 125**      **Revise public hearing process for Montana facility finance authority**
  - Department of Commerce agency bill
  - Revises notification requirements for certain small bond issue projects
- HB 136**      **Adopt Montana revised unclaimed property act**
  - Department of Revenue agency bill
  - Revises definitions, amends when certain categories of property are presumed abandoned, and adds an unclaimed property website to be managed by DOR
- HB 149**      **Generally revise laws related to 9-1-1 program**
  - Department of Administration agency bill

- Transfers authority from the Department of Administration to the Department of Justice

**HB 190 Provide for a state government performance and results act**

- Requires executive branch agencies to develop and make public annual plans

**HB 210 Require state agencies to timely pay for services of other state agencies**

- Requires agencies to invoice other agencies for services rendered within 60 days of the services and requires the invoice be paid within 60 days of receipt

**HB 273 Generally revise laws relating to the director of the state lottery**

- Removes restriction that the director may not hold any other occupation
- Restricts director from owning or being employed by a gaming supplier or sales agent

**HB 348 Revise laws related to state government employee directories**

- Requires all state agencies to post an employee directory on the agency's website
- Requires regular checks and provides exceptions

**HB 377 Create a 250<sup>th</sup> commission for Montana**

- Establishes the Montana 250<sup>th</sup> Commission to coordinate statewide efforts to celebrate the US's 250<sup>th</sup> anniversary

**HB 412 Generally revise code of ethics for public officials and government employees**

- Expands and clarifies the prohibition on the use of public resources for political purposes
- Revises definitions
- Expands portions of the code of ethics to apply to judicial officers

**HB 580 Impose reporting requirements for state agencies and departments**

- Establishes quarterly reporting requirements for the executive, judicial, and legislative branches related to information requests made pursuant to Article II, Section 9 of the Montana Constitution and MCA Title 2

**HB 724 Generally revise public notice requirements**

- Requires state agencies and local government entities to post meeting agendas online prior to meetings

**HB 739 Provide exception for agency adoption of administrative rules**

- Provides an exception for the adoption of administrative rules in the last quarter of a year before a legislative session

**HB 880 Make the huckleberry the official state fruit of Montana**

- Makes the huckleberry the official state fruit of Montana

**HB 890 Require certain govt. boards to provide audio/video recordings of public meetings**

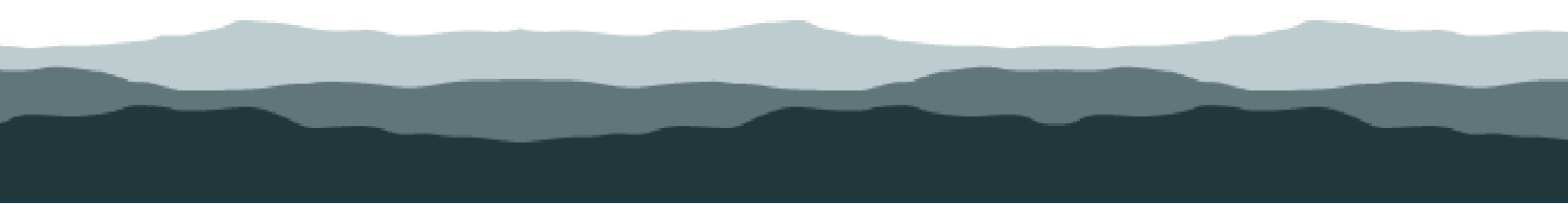
- Requires certain government entities to record and post their public meetings in audio and video formats

**SB 232 Provide for deadlines to respond to public information requests**

- Establishes timelines and procedures for executive branch agencies and other government entities to respond to public information requests

**SB 424 Generally revise laws related to executive branch personal staff**

- Increases the number of personal staff for executive branch agencies, the Secretary of State, the Attorney General, the State Auditor, and the Superintendent of Public Instruction



## RESOLUTIONS

### **HR 5 Resolution honoring Chuck Johnson**

- House resolution honoring the life and work Charles S. Johnson, Montana's longest serving statehouse reporter

### **HR 7 Resolution on Colstrip's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary**

- House resolution recognizing the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Colstrip, Montana

### **SR 53 Senate resolution recognizing the service of Mike Dennison**

- Senate resolution recognizing the service of Mike Dennison, a Montana newsperson

### **SR 58 Resolution honoring Chuck Johnson**

- Senate resolution honoring the life and work Charles S. Johnson, Montana's longest serving statehouse reporter

