



STATE ADMINISTRATION AND VETERANS' AFFAIRS INTERIM COMMITTEE

69th Montana Legislature

SENATE MEMBERS

Mike Cuffe
Janet Ellis
Forrest Mandeville
Tom McGillvray
Wendy McKamey

HOUSE MEMBERS

Marta Bertoglio
Julie Dooling
Ross Fitzgerald
Gregory Frazer
Jim Hamilton
Kelly Kortum
Eric Matthews
Terry Moore
Ed Stafman

COMMITTEE STAFF

Maddelyn Black - Secretary
Andria Hardin - Attorney
Rebecca Power - Research Analyst

MINUTES LOG

July 31, 2024
Room 137
Helena, Montana

Please note: This document is a Minutes Log and provides annotation of the time elapsed between the beginning of the meeting and the time at which the item was presented or discussed, a motion was made, or a vote was taken. The narrative presented here is provided only as a guide to the audio or video recording of the meeting. The official discussion, motion, or vote is available on the audio or video archive of this meeting. The Legislature does not prepare a transcript of the meeting activities. The time designation may be used to locate the referenced discussion on the audio or video recording of this meeting.

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MEMBERS PRESENT:

Rep. Julie Dooling, Presiding Officer (R)
Rep. Kelly Kortum, Vice Presiding Officer (D)
Rep. Marta Bertoglio (R)
Sen. Mike Cuffe (R)
Sen. Janet Ellis (D)
Rep. Ross Fitzgerald (R)
Rep. Gregory Frazer (R)
Rep. Jim Hamilton (D)
Sen. Forrest Mandeville (R)
Rep. Eric Matthews (D)
Sen. Wendy McKamey (R)
Rep. Ed Stafman (D)

MEMBERS EXCUSED:

Sen. Tom McGillvray (R)
Rep. Terry Moore (R)

MEMBERS ABSENT:

STAFF PRESENT:

Maddelyn Black Secretary 

Andria Hardin, Attorney

Rebecca Power, Research Analyst 

AGENDA [\(Attachment 1\)](#)

VISITORS' LIST [\(Attachment 2\)](#)

COMMITTEE ACTION

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

08:30:17 Presiding Officer Julie Dooling called the meeting to order at 8:30 AM. The committee secretary took roll.

SJ 4: PROVIDE FOR INTERIM STUDY OF PERS AND TRS

08:32:57 Rebecca Power, Research Analyst, Legislative Services Division (LSD)
[EXHIBIT 1](#)
[EXHIBIT 2](#)

Committee Questions & Discussion

08:39:40 None

SJ 4: Provide for Interim Study of Pers and TRS Cont.

08:39:45 Rebecca Power
[EXHIBIT 3](#)

Committee Questions & Discussion

08:42:15 Sen. Janet Ellis
08:42:39 Rebecca Power

Evaluating Risk in Pension Systems

08:44:00 Rebecca Power
[EXHIBIT 4](#)

Committee Questions & Discussion

08:46:27 Sen. Wendy McKamey
08:47:02 Sen. Forrest Mandeville
08:47:27 Rebecca Power
08:48:37 Sen. Wendy McKamey
08:49:05 Sen. Janet Ellis

Public Comment

08:49:28 None

Staff Instructions

08:49:57 Presiding Officer Julie Dooling

AGENCY UPDATES & LEGISLATION PROPOSALS TEACHERS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM

08:51:08 Shawn Graham, Executive Director of Montana Teachers' Retirement System (TRS)
[EXHIBIT 5](#)

Committee Questions & Discussion

08:53:45 Sen. Mike Cuffe
08:53:57 Shawn Graham

Teachers' Retirement System Cont.

08:54:13 Shawn Graham

Committee Questions & Discussion

09:06:57 Sen. Janet Ellis
09:07:25 Presiding Officer Julie Dooling
09:07:32 Rebecca Power
09:08:00 Rep. Jim Hamilton
09:08:42 Shawn Graham

Teachers' Retirement System Cont.

09:10:00 Shawn Graham

Committee Questions & Discussion

09:11:49 Presiding Officer Julie Dooling
09:12:01 Shawn Graham
09:13:15 Rep. Eric Matthews
09:13:40 Shawn Graham
[EXHIBIT 6](#)
09:15:47 Presiding Officer Julie Dooling
09:15:57 Shawn Graham
09:16:04 Presiding Officer Julie Dooling

Agency Updates & Legislation Proposals Cont.

09:16:39 Rebecca Power
[EXHIBIT 7](#)

Public Comment

09:17:49 None

Committee Questions & Discussion/ Instruction for Staff

09:18:34 Rep. Marta Bertoglio
09:19:08 Shawn Graham
09:19:54 Presiding Officer Julie Dooling
09:20:33 Shawn Graham
09:22:03 Rep. Ed Stafman
09:23:12 Shawn Graham
09:24:59 Sen. Forrest Mandeville

Motion

09:27:03 Vice Presiding Officer Kelly Kortum moved to direct staff to draft the four agency bills working with TRS.

Discussion on the Motion

09:27:21 Rebecca Power

Motion (Restated)

09:27:31 Vice Presiding Officer Kelly Kortum modifies his motion to direct staff to draft the two agency bills working with TRS. Motion is set to draft the two agency bills working with TRS.

Discussion on the Motion

09:27:48 Rep. Eric Matthews

Vote

09:28:47 Voice Vote: Carried by voice vote, 9-1, with Sen. Forrest Mandeville voting 'no'.

Montana Public Employee Retirement Administration

09:29:53 William Holahan, Executive Director of the Montana Public Employee Retirement Administration (PRS)

[EXHIBIT 8](#)

[EXHIBIT 9](#)

Committee Questions & Discussion

09:43:30 Presiding Officer Julie Dooling

09:43:42 William Holahan

Montana Public Employee Retirement Administration Cont.

09:43:50 William Holahan

Committee Questions & Discussion

09:49:59 Sen. Janet Ellis

09:50:28 Presiding Officer Julie Dooling

09:50:38 William Holahan

Public Comment

09:51:38 None

Motion

09:52:13 Vice Presiding Officer Kelly Kortum moved to direct staff to draft an agency bill with help from PRS.

Vote

09:52:34 Voice Vote: Carried by voice vote, 9-1, with Sen. Forrest Mandeville voting 'no'.

MONTANA BOARD OF INVESTMENTS

09:53:13 Dan Villa, Executive Director of Montana Board of Investments, Committee Questions & Discussion

[EXHIBIT 10](#)

Discussion

09:58:02 Sen. Forrest Mandeville

09:58:18 Dan Villa

10:01:47 Sen. Janet Ellis

10:02:07 Dan Villa

Public Comment

10:03:00 None

Discussion

10:03:19 None

10:04:27 Recess

10:25:24 Reconvened

ADMINISTRATIVE RULE REVIEW

10:25:51 Andria Hardin, Legislative Attorney (LSD)

[EXHIBIT 11](#)

[EXHIBIT 12](#)

[EXHIBIT 13](#)

Public Comment

10:28:00 None

Discussion

10:28:22 None

PENSION OVERSIGHT – PROVISIONAL BILL DRAFTS

10:29:15 Rebecca Power

[EXHIBIT 14](#)

[EXHIBIT 15](#)

[EXHIBIT 16](#)

[EXHIBIT 17](#)

[EXHIBIT 18](#)

Discussion

10:33:14 Presiding Officer Julie Dooling

10:33:30 Rebecca Power

10:33:47 William Holahan

10:34:44 Sen. Mike Cuffe

10:34:54 William Holahan

PENSION OVERSIGHT – PROVISIONAL BILL DRAFTS

10:35:30 Rebecca Power

(See Exhibit 16)

[EXHIBIT 19](#)

[EXHIBIT 20](#)

Committee Questions and Discussion

10:37:15 Sen. Janet Ellis

10:39:00 Rebecca Power

10:39:22 Sen. Janet Ellis
10:40:31 Rebecca Power
10:41:05 Presiding Officer Julie Dooling
10:41:20 William Holahan
10:42:46 Sen. Janet Ellis
10:43:26 Sen. Wendy McKamey

PENSION OVERSIGHT – PROVISIONAL BILL DRAFTS

10:44:16 Rebecca Power
(See Exhibit 17)

Committee Questions and Discussion

10:45:02 None

PENSION OVERSIGHT – PROVISIONAL BILL DRAFTS

10:45:06 Rebecca Power
(See Exhibit 18)

Committee Questions and Discussion

10:46:48 None

Public Comment

10:47:34 Jennifer Olson, Government Affairs Director, Montana League of Cities and Towns
10:48:04 Jessie Luther, Association of Montana State Troopers
(See Exhibits 15,16,17,18)
10:52:10 Shelby Demars, Montana Police Protective Association
10:54:51 Kim Popham, Montana Federation of Public Employees (MFPE)
10:56:58 Will Selph, Chief of Staff to Attorney General
[EXHIBIT 21](#)
10:59:33 Amanda Frickle, Montana - AFL-CIO
11:00:34 Charles Denowh, Montana Association of Chiefs of Police

Committee Questions and Discussion

11:01:30 Sen. Janet Ellis
(See Exhibit 14)
11:02:47 Rebecca Power
11:03:00 Presiding Officer Julie Dooling
11:03:30 Sen. Janet Ellis
11:04:17 William Holahan
11:05:47 Vice Presiding Officer Kelly Kortum
11:06:08 William Holahan

11:06:41 Sen. Mike Cuffe
11:07:00 Rebecca Power
11:08:48 Sen. Wendy McKamey
11:09:17 William Holahan

Motion

11:10:12 Vice Presiding Officer Kelly Kortum moved to support PD0018 as a committee bill.

Committee Questions and Discussion

11:10:52 Sen. Forrest Mandeville

[EXHIBIT 22](#)

Vote

11:12:16 Voice Vote: Carried by voice vote, 8-2, with Sen. Forrest Mandeville and Sen. Mike Cuffe voting 'no'.

Motion

11:12:43 Vice Presiding Officer Kelly Kortum moved to move forward with PD0016 as a committee bill

Vote

11:13:05 Carries unanimously by voice vote.

Motion

11:13:13 Vice Presiding Officer Kelly Kortum moved to move forward with PD0017 as a committee bill

Vote

11:13:28 Voice Vote: Carried by voice vote, 9-1, with Sen. Forrest Mandeville voting 'no'.

AGENCY UPDATES & LEGISLATION PROPOSALS (CONTINUED)

11:14:31 Misty Ann Giles, Director of Administration

[EXHIBIT 23](#)

Committee Questions and Discussion

11:37:09 Sen. Mike Cuffe
11:38:34 Misty Ann Giles
11:39:05 Vice Presiding Officer Kelly Kortum
11:39:25 Misty Ann Giles
11:41:48 Sen. Janet Ellis
11:43:20 Misty Ann Giles
11:46:54 Sen. Janet Ellis
11:47:50 Misty Ann Giles

AGENCY UPDATES & LEGISLATION PROPOSALS (CONTINUED)

11:48:55 Misty Ann Giles
(See Exhibit 23)

Committee Questions and Discussion

11:51:33 Rep. Ed Stafman
11:52:17 Rep. Marta Bertoglio left
11:52:18 Misty Ann Giles
11:53:53 Don Harris, DOA Chief Legal Counsel
11:54:40 Rep. Ed Stafman
11:56:27 Sen. Janet Ellis
11:56:55 Misty Ann Giles

[EXHIBIT 24](#)

AGENCY UPDATES & LEGISLATION PROPOSALS (CONTINUED)

11:58:09 Misty Ann Giles
(See Exhibit 23)

Public Comment

12:09:24 None

Motion

12:10:18 Vice Presiding Officer Kelly Kortum moved staff to work with the DOA to draft Agency Legislation

Vote

12:10:46 Voice Vote: Carried by voice vote, 6-2, with Sen. Forrest Mandeville and Vice Presiding Officer Kelly Kortum voting 'no'.

PROVISIONAL BILL DRAFTS RELATED TO ELECTIONS Cont.

12:11:23 Rebecca Power

Committee Questions and Discussion

12:12:14 Sen. Mike Cuffe volunteered to carry PD0016 and Sen. Wendy McKamey, volunteered to carry PD0017.
12:12:35 Rebecca Power
12:12:56 Sen. Forrest Mandeville
12:13:20 Sen Ellis volunteered to carry PD0018.

12:13:38 Recessed
13:04:00 Reconvened

PUBLIC COMMENT ON ANY TOPIC UNDER SAVA'S JURISDICTION

13:05:01 Vincent Pontillo, Second US Cavalry Association of 501C3 living history organization

[EXHIBIT 25](#)

[EXHIBIT 26](#)


Committee Questions and Discussion

13:10:00 Sen. Forrest Mandeville
13:10:29 Rebecca Power
13:10:50 Vincent Pontillo

PUBLIC COMMENT ON ANY TOPIC UNDER SAVA'S JURISDICTION CONT

13:13:40 David Nims
[EXHIBIT 27](#)
13:21:00 Presiding Officer Julie Dooling

**MEMBER TOPIC: ELECTION SECURITY STUDY
MONTANA ELECTION OBSERVATION INITIATIVE**

13:23:21 Jeff Mangan 
13:23:37 Geraldine Custer, previous Representative
[EXHIBIT 28](#)
13:30:05 Sarah Cooper, Associate Director for Democracy Programs, Carter Center
13:32:41 Rep. Ed Stafman arrived
13:35:03 Jeff Mangan
13:35:37 Adrian Carrasquillo, Associate of the Carter Center
13:36:06 Jeff Mangan
13:36:18 Katie Vaughan, Director of Civic Engagement at The Mansfield Center
13:36:29 Drew Murray, Program Officer at The Mansfield Center
13:37:48 Jeff Mangan

Committee Questions and Discussion

13:43:34 Sen. Wendy McKamey
13:44:01 Jeff Mangan
13:46:36 Sen. Forrest Mandeville
13:47:44 Geraldine Custer
13:50:08 Jeff Mangan
13:51:12 Rep. Ed Stafman
13:51:48 Jeff Mangan
13:54:04 Sarah Cooper
13:54:57 Sen. Mike Cuffe
13:55:20 Jeff Mangan
13:57:34 Geraldine Custer
13:58:51 Presiding Officer Julie Dooling
13:59:04 Jeff Mangan
14:00:13 Sen. Mike Cuffe
14:00:16 Presiding Officer Julie Dooling

[EXHIBIT 29](#)

14:01:11 Jeff Mangan

Public Comment

14:02:56 Elizabeth Hale
14:03:18 Geraldine Custer
14:03:44 Jeff Mangan
14:04:33 Presiding Officer Julie Dooling
14:04:50 David Nims
14:05:24 Presiding Officer Julie Dooling
14:05:46 Geraldine Custer
14:08:32 Jeff Mangan
14:09:25 Presiding Officer Julie Dooling

ONLINE VOTER REGISTRATION

14:11:12 Katy Owens Hubler, Project Manager National conference of State Legislators

[EXHIBIT 30](#)

Committee Questions and Discussion

14:24:38 Sen. Forrest Mandeville
14:25:05 Katy Owens Hubler
14:25:37 Sen. Mike Cuffe
14:27:07 Presiding Officer Julie Dooling
14:27:20 Katy Owens Hubler

ONLINE VOTER REGISTRATION

14:28:38 Laurie Bakri, Administrator, MVD
14:31:13 Tyson Miller

Committee Questions and Discussion

14:31:48 Sen. Janet Ellis
14:32:40 Laurie Bakri
14:33:28 Rep. Ed Stafman
14:33:53 Laurie Bakri
14:34:29 Sen. Mike Cuffe
14:35:53 Laurie Bakri
14:36:56 Vice Presiding Officer Kelly Kortum
14:37:04 Regina Plettenberg, Election Administrator in Ravalli County, Ravalli County
Clerk & Recorder
14:41:30 Sen. Forrest Mandeville
14:41:47 Regina Plettenberg
14:43:47 Sen. Janet Ellis

14:44:33 Regina Plettenberg
14:45:25 Rep. Marta Bertoglio

Public Comment

14:46:23 None

Committee Questions and Discussion

14:46:55 Rep. Ed Stafman

Motion

14:49:06 Rep. Ed Stafman moved staff to draft a bill to be drafted about the particulars of creating an online voter registration system

Discussion on the Motion

14:49:40 Sen. Mike Cuffe
14:50:05 Sen. Janet Ellis
14:50:26 Rep. Ed Stafman
14:50:38 Rebecca Power

Vote

14:52:35 Voice Vote: Carried by roll call vote, 8-2, with Sen Cuffe and Sen. Forrest Mandeville voting 'no'. ([Vote Sheet](#))

Committee Discussion

14:52:20 Sen. Mike Cuffe
14:52:45 Presiding Officer Julie Dooling

COSTS ASSOCIATED WITH CAST VOTE RECORDS

14:53:05 Rebecca Power
[EXHIBIT 31](#)
[EXHIBIT 32](#)
14:55:50 Regina Plettenberg
14:57:40 Presiding Officer Julie Dooling
14:59:00 Sen. Mike Cuffe
14:59:13 Regina Plettenberg
15:02:19 Rebecca Power
15:04:23 Presiding Officer Julie Dooling
15:06:56 Sen. Janet Ellis
15:07:38 Regina Plettenberg
15:07:53 Rebecca Power
(See Exhibit 33)
15:08:25 Vice Presiding Officer Kelly Kortum
15:08:32 Rebecca Power

15:09:07 Sen. Mike Cuffe
15:09:15 Regina Plettenberg

Public Comment

15:10:45 Mary Tapper, Licensed Attorney from GA and MT
[EXHIBIT 33](#)
(See Exhibit 32)
15:19:00 Rep. Marta Bertoglio left the meeting.

Committee Questions and Discussion

15:21:22 Presiding Officer Julie Dooling
15:22:00 Regina Plettenberg

PROVISIONAL BILL DRAFTS RELATED TO ELECTIONS

15:27:50 Rebecca Power
15:28:55 Sen. Janet Ellis
[EXHIBIT 34](#)
15:31:14 Rebecca Power
[EXHIBIT 35](#)
15:37:22 Shelley Hendrickson-Scott, Attorney, COPP Legal Counsel
(See Exhibit 35)

Committee Questions and Discussion

15:44:34 Sen. Janet Ellis
15:46:00 Rebecca Power
15:46:11 Rep. Ed Stafman
15:48:10 Shelley Hendrickson-Scott
15:48:26 Rebecca Power
15:48:43 Sen. Forrest Mandeville
15:49:08 Shelley Hendrickson-Scott
15:51:36 Sen. Janet Ellis

PROVISIONAL BILL DRAFTS RELATED TO ELECTIONS

15:53:16 Commissioner Chris Gallus

16:04:39 Recessed
16:18:10 Reconvened

**AGENCY UPDATES & LEGISLATION PROPOSALS (CONTINUED)
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE**

16:19:22 Angela Nunn Chief Deputy
[EXHIBIT 36](#)

Public Comment

16:31:31 None

Committee Questions and Discussion

16:31:47 Vice Presiding Officer Kelly Kortum

16:32:24 Angela Nunn

16:32:30 Sen. Forrest Mandeville

16:33:00 Presiding Officer Julie Dooling

16:33:21 Vice Presiding Officer Kelly Kortum

16:34:04 Angela Nunn

[EXHIBIT 37](#)

16:36:11 Rep. Marta Bertoglio Returns

16:37:47 Sen. Mike Cuffe

16:38:00 Rep. Ed Stafman

16:39:23 Sen. Forrest Mandeville

16:40:00 Rep. Ed Stafman

16:40:40 Sen. Mike Cuffe

16:42:21 Presiding Officer Julie Dooling

16:43:31 Rep. Ed Stafman

16:44:00 Sen. Mike Cuffe

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF POLITICAL PRACTICES

16:44:52 Commissioner Chis Gallus

Public Comment

16:48:24 None

Committee Questions and Discussion

16:48:33 None

HJ 23 SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATE

16:49:20 Rep. Ross Fitzgerald

[EXHIBIT 38](#)

[EXHIBIT 39](#)

16:54:22 Rebecca Power

(See Exhibit 30)

Public Comment

16:55:30 Rebecca Boslough-King, Director Montana Association of Conservation Districts

16:56:30 Hailey Graf, DNRC

16:57:54 Rep. Ed Stafman Left

16:58:01 Delila Bruno, Administrator for Disaster and Emergency Services

Committee Questions and Discussion

16:58:21 Presiding Officer Julie Dooling
16:58:49 Rep. Ross Fitzgerald
16:59:12 Sen. Janet Ellis
17:00:24 Rep. Ross Fitzgerald
17:01:01 Sen. Forrest Mandeville
17:02:32 Rep. Ross Fitzgerald

Motion

17:02:50 Vice Presiding Officer Kelly Kortum moved to forward PD0019 as a committee bill.

Vote

17:03:06 Carried unanimously by voice vote.
17:03:34 Sen Mandeville will carry the bill

Committee Questions and Discussion

17:03:55 Vice Presiding Officer Kelly Kortum

Motion

17:04:28 Vice Presiding Officer Kelly Kortum moved to direct staff to draft a bill to fund DES with 6 FTE for the purpose of being regional directors for disasters.
17:05:05 Sen. Janet Ellis

Vote

17:05:13 Failed by roll call vote 2-7 with "Rep. Marta Bertoglio, Sen. Mike Cuffe, Rep. Ross Fitzgerald, Rep. Gregory Frazer, Sen. Forrest Mandeville, Sen. Wendy McKamey, Presiding Officer Julie Dooling" voting "no". ([Vote Sheet](#))

PROVISIONAL BILL DRAFTS RELATED TO ELECTIONS

17:06:30 Rebecca Power
[EXHIBIT 40](#)

Committee Questions and Discussion

17:10:18 Sen. Wendy McKamey
17:10:58 Sen. Janet Ellis
17:11:18 Rebecca Power
17:11:40 Sen. Wendy McKamey
17:11:57 Presiding Officer Julie Dooling
17:12:08 Rebecca Power
17:12:43 Sen. Wendy McKamey
17:13:02 Presiding Officer Julie Dooling

MEETING WRAP UP

17:13:39 Rebecca Power

17:16:16 Presiding Officer Julie Dooling

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 17:16:51