



TRANSITION REVIEW COMMITTEE

DRAFT ANNUAL REPORT
AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Milly Allen, Research Analyst
July 2024



P.O. Box 201706
Helena, MT 59620-1706
Phone: (406) 444-3064
Fax: (406) 444-3971

Website: <https://leg.mt.gov/committees/other-groups/transition-review-committee/>

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Meeting Summaries.....	1
October 24, 2023	1
January 17, 2024.....	1
March 11, 2024.....	1
July 15, 2024.....	1
Recommendations to the Department	1
Appendix A: Transition Review Committee Members.....	i
Legislative Members	i
Public Members.....	i
Transition Review Committee Staff	i

House Bill 29 (2023) established the Transition Review Committee

to monitor the development of community-based services for individuals who have been or are at risk of being involuntarily committed to the Montana State Hospital and who have a primary diagnosis of Alzheimer’s disease, other forms of dementia, or traumatic brain injury. The committee received reports from the Department of Public Health and Human Services at each of its quarterly meetings and heard additional information and public testimony on subjects of concern to the committee. Video and audio minutes, written minutes logs, and exhibits can be found online at the committee’s website: <https://leg.mt.gov/committees/other-groups/transition-review-committee/>

MEETING SUMMARIES

The following summaries of the committee's quarterly meetings provide a brief overview of the committee's activities and highlight key committee votes. To review a meeting in detail, please see that meeting's audio and video minutes which are available on the committee's website.

OCTOBER 24, 2023

The committee selected Rep. Jennifer Carlson and Sen. Christopher Pope as its presiding and vice presiding officers, respectively. It adopted its rules and procedures and reviewed its work plan.

It also began its substantive work with updates from the Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS), a presentation on the perspectives of long-term care facilities and their role in patient transition from the Montana State Hospital, and an educational segment on the best practices for treatment and care of individuals with dementia.

JANUARY 17, 2024

Presentations to the committee included a report from DPHHS, an update from long-term care facilities, an overview of state issues and solutions in long-term care, and legal review of civil commitment policy in Montana.

MARCH 11, 2024

The committee heard its routine update from DPHHS and senior and long-term care facilities. It also learned about the best practices for treatment and care of individuals with traumatic brain injury and received a statutory review of extension of and discharge from involuntary civil commitment.

JULY 15, 2024

TBD.

RECOMMENDATIONS TO THE DEPARTMENT

This section intentionally left blank for committee discussion and input.

APPENDIX A: TRANSITION REVIEW COMMITTEE MEMBERS

LEGISLATIVE MEMBERS

Legislative members appointed in accordance with HB 29, section 6, subsection (4).

Representative Jennifer Carlson, Chair
jennifer.carlson@legmt.gov

Senator Christopher Pope, Vice Chair
christopher.pope@legmt.gov

Representative Mary Caferro
mary.caferro@legmt.gov

Senator Dennis Lenz
dennis.lenz@legmt.gov

PUBLIC MEMBERS

Public members appointed in accordance with HB 29, section 6, subsection (2)(b) as follows:

Heather O'Hara
(2)(b)(i) Vice President, Montana Hospital Association
heather.ohara@mtha.org

Mike Lahr
(2)(b)(ii) Attorney, Disability Rights Montana
mike@disabilityrightsmt.org

Melanie Williams
(2)(b)(iii) Program Director, Montana Hospital Association
meawilliams@alz.org

Ann Geiger
(2)(b)(iv) Executive Director, Liberty Place
ageiger@libertyplace.org

Dr. Reza Ghomi
(2)(b)(v) Psychiatrist, Frontier Psychiatry
r.ghomi@frontier.care

Sara Hansen-Baiamonte
(2)(b)(vi) Family and Guardian Representative
sara.baiamonte@gmail.com

Shawna Karjala
(2)(b)(vii) Medicaid Complex Care Coordinator, DPHHS
(served May 2024 – present)
shawna.karjala@mt.gov

Mike Randol
(2)(b)(vii) Medicaid and Health Services Executive
Director, DPHHS
(served October 2023 – April 2024)

Transition Review Committee Staff

Milly Allen, Legislative Research Analyst – milly.allen@legmt.gov

Jolanda Songer, Secretary – jolanda.songer@legmt.gov