



TRANSITION REVIEW COMMISSION **DRAFT** WORK PLAN 2023-2025

Milly Allen, Research Analyst
For review on October 24, 2023

BACKGROUND

THE TRANSITION REVIEW COMMITTEE

[House Bill 29](#), introduced during the 2023 Legislative Session, established the Transition Review Committee. The commission monitors 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.

Committee membership includes legislators, experts, and stakeholders appointed in accordance with HB 29:

- Senator Dennis Lenz
- Senator Christopher Pope
- Representative Mary Caferro
- Representative Jennifer Carlson
- Heather O'Hara – Vice President, Montana Hospital Association
- Mike Lahr – Attorney, Disability Rights Montana
- Melanie Williams – Program Director, Montana Alzheimer's Association
- Ann Geiger – Executive Director, Liberty Place
- Dr. Reza Ghomi – Co-Founder, Frontier Psychiatry
- Sara Hanson-Baiamonte – family member or guardian of an individual who is or has been committed to the Montana State Hospital
- Mike Randol – Medicaid and Health Services Executive Director

The Legislative Services Division provides staff support to the committee:

- Milly Allen, Research Analyst – milly.allen@legmt.gov
- Jolanda Songer, Secretary – jolanda.songer@legmt.gov

PLANNING YOUR WORK

WORK PLAN

A tool for the committee, its staff, and the public.

The committee meets quarterly between July 1, 2023 and June 30, 2025. A work plan provides an outline that helps the committee plan its work and assists Montanans who wish to follow that work.

HB 29 clearly outlines the Transition Review Committee's duties. The committee hears frequent reports from the Department of Public Health and Human Services and, when necessary, from the Governor's Office of Budget and Program Planning.

It must also hear reports from those who provide health care and other services to individuals with dementia and traumatic brain injury, review efforts in other states to reduce involuntary commitment of individuals with a primary diagnosis of dementia and traumatic brain injury, and advise the Department of Public Health and Human Services of any problems it observes as residents transition from Montana State Hospital to other facilities.

The Transition Review Committee has 0.2 FTE (full time equivalent) from its research analyst. It must decide how it would like to spend that FTE. Reports and presentations by state agencies or other entities require staff time to organize and process. Administrative work, including placing requests for information and drafting committee communications and reports, also requires staff time.

Activity	Staff FTE
DPHHS reports	
Other reports	
Review efforts in other states	
Administrative work	
SUBTOTAL	0.2 FTE

MEETING SCHEDULE

The committee meets quarterly and must be disbanded no later than June 30, 2025. A proposed meeting schedule is below. The committee will ideally adopt a meeting schedule at its October 24 meeting for planning purposes.

The 69th Montana Legislature meets in January of 2025. The spring 2025 committee date will likely occur during the session. The committee should be aware that meeting rooms can be challenging to find, and that its staff must prioritize any assigned session committees and bill drafting.

October 24, 2023

January 17, 2024

March 11, 2024

July 15, 2024

September 13, 2024

December 13, 2024

[Spring 2025 TBD, based on legislative calendar]

June 13, 2025

PUBLIC INFORMATION

COMMITTEE WEBSITE

The committee's legislative web page is the sole official repository of task information, including presentation aids, documents, meeting minutes, and exhibits. You may find it here: <https://leg.mt.gov/committees/other-groups/transition-review-committee/>

At that website, the public may also:

- Submit written public comment;
- Register to testify remotely; and
- Sign up for email communications from the task force.