

**Fox, Susan**

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**From:** webmaster@localhost.legmt.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 16, 2020 9:45 AM  
**To:** Fox, Susan; Spencer, Nadine; Everts, Todd  
**Subject:** Submission from Joint Rules Committee

## Submit Information to the Joint Rules Committee

**Date:** 16th December 2020 09:45

**Your Full Name:**

Sue Furey

**Email Address:**

suecfurey@gmail.com

**Subject Line:**

Health of legislators in 2021 session

**Your Comment:**

Please make it mandatory to wear masks in the upcoming session. I have 2 family members who are former legislators. The chambers are a petri dish for all kinds of viruses, which many of the members caught. > Many of the members have pre-existing conditions. It is unconscionable that you would not make masks mandatory. I was in Taiwan in January of 2021. Taiwan people received the notice to mask up and you could see the message got to them immediately. We were also checked each time we entered a place of business for our temperatures. It is hard to social distance in a country of 23 million people. Yet, Taiwan has had only 7 deaths from covid, and only 700 cases of the virus. Taiwan is back to normal. They followed the recommendations of the health department.

**Upload Written Testimony:**

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Sent via [leg.mt.gov/committees/other-groups/house-senate-and-joint-rules-committees/jrc-pc-form/](https://leg.mt.gov/committees/other-groups/house-senate-and-joint-rules-committees/jrc-pc-form/)

## Fox, Susan

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**From:** Nancy Leifer <nancleifer@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 16, 2020 9:13 AM  
**To:** Fox, Susan  
**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Written version of testimony for Joint Rules Committee today  
**Attachments:** Joint Rules Public Comment League of Women Voters.docx

Dear Susan:

I am attaching a written version of the public comment to the Joint Rules Committee I am submitting as the President of the League of Women Voters Montana.

I anticipate presenting this public comment during the public comment period. However, if that doesn't happen, please add it to the record of written comments submitted.

Sincerely,  
Nancy Leifer  
President, League of Women Voters Montana  
Pronouns: She/Her/Hers  
C: 406-207-9114  
E: [nancleifer@gmail.com](mailto:nancleifer@gmail.com)

To: Joint Rules Committee of the Montana Legislature

From: Nancy Leifer, President, League of Women Voters Montana, nancleifer@gmail.com

Public Comment submitted Wednesday, December 16

The League of Women Voters Montana was established 100 years ago. We are a non-partisan, non-profit volunteer organization dedicated to supporting the quality of our democracy. The 100 delegates that drafted Montana's 1972 Constitution, 9 of whom were League of Women Voters members, bequeathed to Montana a strong democracy of fairness, transparency and public participation.

You are the stewards of that democracy. I urge you to establish rules for the 2021 session that maintain this legacy of fairness, transparency and public participation.

In particular, I urge you to reject amendments to the proposed Rules that violate the norms of a healthy democracy such as HR101 that destroys the deliberative process by giving committee chairs the power to deny bills a hearing and removing the role of majority House approval in committee appointments.

As we meet today, Americans are dying from Covid 19 at the rate of one per minute. The most optimistic estimate envisions vaccines getting to average Americans in April, with immunity coming a month later. I urge you to use virtual technology throughout the 2021 session so that legislators, staff and the public have the option to participate in the session effectively and safely. No Montanan should have to risk their health to participate in our democracy.

**Fox, Susan**

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**From:** webmaster@localhost.legmt.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 16, 2020 9:02 AM  
**To:** Fox, Susan; Spencer, Nadine; Everts, Todd  
**Subject:** Submission from Joint Rules Committee

## Submit Information to the Joint Rules Committee

**Date:** 16th December 2020 09:01

**Your Full Name:**

Charles Buus

**Email Address:**

cnmbuus@gmail.com

**Subject Line:**

Follow Science and Use your best judgement

**Your Comment:**

The session should follow guidance by the CDC and other bodies that consider science. 90% of the previous comments appear emotional and not based on science. Legislators should wear face coverings as required and continue to maintain social distancing. For those that are not comfortable with current science and CDC recommendations, then a choice to participate virtually should be allowed. If Legislators cannot abide by the rules, then they should be asked to leave. Take responsibility for your actions and respect those that follow science and guidance.

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Sent via [leg.mt.gov/committees/other-groups/house-senate-and-joint-rules-committees/jrc-pc-form/](https://leg.mt.gov/committees/other-groups/house-senate-and-joint-rules-committees/jrc-pc-form/)

**Fox, Susan**

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**From:** webmaster@localhost.legmt.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, December 16, 2020 8:28 AM  
**To:** Fox, Susan; Spencer, Nadine; Everts, Todd  
**Subject:** Submission from Joint Rules Committee

## Submit Information to the Joint Rules Committee

**Date:** 16th December 2020 08:27

**Your Full Name:**

Susan How

**Email Address:**

ssnthw@gmail.com

**Subject Line:**

Provide range of options for public testimony

**Your Comment:**

This is an extraordinary time, and it is especially important that you offer a full range of options so that the voice of the people is fully heard in the coming session. In particular, because of the difficulty of safe travel and fear of exposure to Covid-19, we need to have a reliable way to deliver our testimony in hearings by means of Zoom and other electronic services. This is vital to give access to the full spectrum of our citizens as legislation is considered. We also expect and depend on the leadership of our state government, including all legislators, to mask up and follow best practices in reducing infections so that the business of the people can be safely conducted during this health crisis.

**Upload Written Testimony:**

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