

Fox, Susan

From: webmaster@localhost.legmt.gov
Sent: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 8:40 AM
To: Fox, Susan; Spencer, Nadine; Everts, Todd
Subject: Submission from Joint Rules Committee

Submit Information to the Joint Rules Committee

Date: 9th December 2020 08:40

Your Full Name:

Susan Flanagin

Email Address:

susanmeadowlark@gmail.com

Subject Line:

current session

Your Comment:

My first relative here came in 1856, and I stayed to live, work, and retire. I care about my state! Even with Covid, you should figure out ways to meet and conduct business as usual, IN PUBLIC. Please have virtual meetings and uphold all past procedures. I am appalled at what the Republicans are doing!

Upload Written Testimony:

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Sent via leg.mt.gov/committees/other-groups/house-senate-and-joint-rules-committees/jrc-pc-form/

Fox, Susan

From: webmaster@localhost.legmt.gov
Sent: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 8:12 AM
To: Fox, Susan; Spencer, Nadine; Everts, Todd
Subject: Submission from Joint Rules Committee

Submit Information to the Joint Rules Committee

Date: 9th December 2020 08:12

Your Full Name:

Melissa Smith

Email Address:

mls3ster@gmail.com

Subject Line:

HR101ATE

Your Comment:

Dear Members of the Rules Committee - I urge you to vote against this proposed amendment that silences dissenting voices and discourages public participation in the Montana legislative process. Thank you for your consideration.

Upload Written Testimony:

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Fox, Susan

From: webmaster@localhost.legmt.gov
Sent: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 7:51 AM
To: Fox, Susan; Spencer, Nadine; Everts, Todd
Subject: Submission from Joint Rules Committee

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Submit Information to the Joint Rules Committee

Date: 9th December 2020 07:50

Your Full Name:

Pam

Email Address:

pamboyd123@gmail.com

Subject Line:

Covid

Your Comment:

As a nurse practitioner I think the 2021 Legislature should model the best evidence based practices for preventing Covid 19 spread. Virtual gathering should be done in all possible cases. If it is absolutely necessary for in person meetings, masks should be worn in all instances, social distancing should be observed and hand sanitizer provided. These legislators if gathering will return to their local communities and can spread any infection to vulnerable members of those communities. There is such a thing as the greater good which seems to be left out of discussions about masks. Yes we have individual rights but in some cases such as a pandemic we may have to think of what is more important. In this case helping the most people takes precedence. This is not a political issue, it is a matter of public health.

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Fox, Susan

From: webmaster@localhost.legmt.gov
Sent: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 4:39 AM
To: Fox, Susan; Spencer, Nadine; Everts, Todd
Subject: Submission from Joint Rules Committee

Submit Information to the Joint Rules Committee

Date: 9th December 2020 04:38

Your Full Name:

Walter Derzay

Email Address:

Bigskysnowboarder@yahoo.com

Subject Line:

Open meetings

Your Comment:

Keeping meetings open to the public and in person witnessing of the machinations of our legislature is critical to keeping our state government open and transparent. Zoom meetings are a step towards darkness and obscurity in our republic. There are few things more critical in this world than open public meetings. Legislators are essential workers and must be available to the public in person or let someone in who will be.

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Fox, Susan

From: webmaster@localhost.legmt.gov
Sent: Wednesday, December 9, 2020 1:46 AM
To: Fox, Susan; Spencer, Nadine; Everts, Todd
Subject: Submission from Joint Rules Committee

Submit Information to the Joint Rules Committee

Date: 9th December 2020 01:46

Your Full Name:

Emily Withnall

Email Address:

emilywithnall@gmail.com

Subject Line:

Hold session virtually

Your Comment:

Whether legislators are individually concerned or unconcerned by contracting Covid-19, it is imperative that all legislators demonstrate leadership by remaining home until vaccine distribution has made transmission unlikely. Citizens who are at high risk--such as the elderly and people who are immuno-compromised--are at risk of dying if they contract Covid-19. Perhaps there are not legislators who fall into these high risk categories, but you all serve the citizens of Montana. The citizens of Montana look to their leaders when making decisions and deciding how seriously to treat the health of their fellow neighbors. Covid-19 is a disease, not a political stance. Please hold the 2021 legislative session virtually so as to minimize spread in your own families and communities, and to demonstrate leadership to all Montanans.

Upload Written Testimony:

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Fox, Susan

From: webmaster@localhost.legmt.gov
Sent: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 10:53 PM
To: Fox, Susan; Spencer, Nadine; Everts, Todd
Subject: Submission from Joint Rules Committee

Submit Information to the Joint Rules Committee

Date: 8th December 2020 22:52

Your Full Name:

Jean Woessner

Email Address:

jwoessner@bigsky.net

Subject Line:

Rules for in person assembly during COVID-19 Pandemic

Your Comment:

I find it absolutely unbelievable that the MT legislators would even consider meeting together IN PERSON during a global pandemic, where Montana's transmission rate is out of control, and especially when the city and county where the legislature meets has asked the legislative members to observe their county restrictions. That you would even consider meeting in person without wearing masks or socially distancing reflects either ignorance or willful disregard for human life on your part. If it is the former, then you should not be serving in the legislature at all. If it is the latter then if you acquire this virus and need hospitalization I hope you will also sign a waiver for treatment to be withheld for you. I am beyond disgusted. When your 'freedom' to spread germs to others impacts the health and well-being of other humans, it is not freedom at all. It is criminal behavior and certainly not Montana values.

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Fox, Susan

From: webmaster@localhost.legmt.gov
Sent: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 10:16 PM
To: Fox, Susan; Spencer, Nadine; Everts, Todd
Subject: Submission from Joint Rules Committee
Attachments: inbound3040812690580735222.docx

Submit Information to the Joint Rules Committee

Date: 8th December 2020 22:16

Your Full Name:
Patricia M Denke

Email Address:
pattydenke@aol.com

Subject Line:
Comments to rules committee re 2021

Your Comment:

I feel it is imperative that the upcoming legislative session be held virtually. There are many advantages to in person meetings. A large portion of the work does not take place in the formal meetings. But these are extraordinary times. Montana is a small state, population wise, and our elected leaders are not just elected leaders in Helena. They are also essential parts of their communities. We don't have that many people like them. We can't, as a state, afford to send them to Helena this year. It is stressful to begin with. It reduces their ability to stay healthy (and sane) and it would take only one legislator or visitor to infect, and potentially damage or kill, several of our valuable leaders. We can't afford that. Better they should meet via virtual methods. Better they should each have a publicly provided smart phone or whatever it takes to use for official business, and, if necessary, sit in their vehicle at the pullout where cell phones work. Among other things, perhaps it would really bring home what "rural connectivity" means.

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To: Fox, Susan; Spencer, Nadine; Everts, Todd
Subject: Submission from Joint Rules Committee

Submit Information to the Joint Rules Committee

Date: 8th December 2020 22:13

Your Full Name:
Courtney VonLindern

Email Address:
courtvon2012@gmail.com

Subject Line:
Upcoming Legislative Session

Your Comment:

Greetings representatives. With the upcoming Legislative Session taking place during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, I urge you to hold these sessions virtually. In doing so, you create better accessibility for ALL Montanans (who you represent) while committing to reducing the amount of strain that is being placed on our healthcare system. Going virtual means that Montanans with disabilities (many of whom are also Veterans) will also be able to better access these sessions and fully participate in the political life of Montana. As a constituent, it is my obligation to remind you that you have a duty to make yourself available to the people you serve. Thank you for your time.

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Sent: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 9:51 PM
To: Fox, Susan; Spencer, Nadine; Everts, Todd
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Submit Information to the Joint Rules Committee

Date: 8th December 2020 21:51

Your Full Name:

Mary C. Boschert-Brannin

Email Address:

branninme@gmail.com

Subject Line:

Following the CDC Protocols concerning Covid-19 in Public Settings

Your Comment:

It is important for the Legislators working in the Capitol for the coming Legislative Session to follow the procedures and protocols necessary to keep fellow Legislators, staff and the public safe from the spread of Covid-19. It is essential that while carrying on the business of governing for all Montanans that it be done with the safety and welfare of all at the forefront of everyone's mind.

Upload Written Testimony:

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To: Fox, Susan; Spencer, Nadine; Everts, Todd
Subject: Submission from Joint Rules Committee

Submit Information to the Joint Rules Committee

Date: 8th December 2020 21:47

Your Full Name:
Elizabeth Boyson

Email Address:
BethBoyson@yahoo.com

Subject Line:
The 2021 session

Your Comment:
Please do NOT hold an in person session. It would endanger the health and lives of the Helena community, everyone who works at or on the vicinity of the state house. It would also make the great state of Montana a laughing stock worldwide. We deserve better than that.

Upload Written Testimony:
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To: Fox, Susan; Spencer, Nadine; Everts, Todd
Subject: Submission from Joint Rules Committee

Submit Information to the Joint Rules Committee

Date: 8th December 2020 21:38

Your Full Name:

Susie Reber Orr

Email Address:

susieorr56@gmail.com

Subject Line:

Safety of the community

Your Comment:

Legislators have a duty to to protect the public an to minimally follow the CDC guidelines. They need to wear masks in the Capitol so that they don't spread anything beyond Helena a back to their constituents. We all need to be able to get back to our lives and if the legislature has to be interrupted by legislators getting covid, that will set us all back. Please please be safe. That is your job over any other job, to keep your constituents safe.

Upload Written Testimony:

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To: Fox, Susan; Spencer, Nadine; Everts, Todd
Subject: Submission from Joint Rules Committee

Submit Information to the Joint Rules Committee

Date: 8th December 2020 21:34

Your Full Name:

Janet Childress

Email Address:

ocjcinmt@aol.com

Subject Line:

COVID and virtual session

Your Comment:

I live in Helena. I am a retired nurse. I have deep concerns regarding the legislature descending on Helena in the midst of the COVID pandemic. I urge the Joint Rules Committee members to follow the science regarding COVID and conduct as much of the session as possible remotely if you cannot social distance and all legislators cannot wear masks. Failing that I ask that the committee members consider delaying the legislative session until May or June. It makes sense to follow the advice of experts in the field. (Would any of you want your diabetes treated by someone who watched a video on youtube? <<rhetorical question<<)

Upload Written Testimony:

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Sent: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 8:05 PM
To: Fox, Susan; Spencer, Nadine; Everts, Todd
Subject: Submission from Joint Rules Committee

Submit Information to the Joint Rules Committee

Date: 8th December 2020 20:04

Your Full Name:
Danell Elizabeth Jones

Email Address:
danell@danelljones.com

Subject Line:
Legislature Must Meet Virtually

Your Comment:
We are in the middle of a pandemic. In order to prevent the spread of Covid-19, to save lives, and ease the strain on our already overextended hospitals, it is imperative that the Montana Legislature meet virtually. We are all in this together. Thank you, Danell Jones

Upload Written Testimony:

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Fox, Susan

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Sent: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 7:12 PM
To: Fox, Susan; Spencer, Nadine; Everts, Todd
Subject: Submission from Joint Rules Committee

Submit Information to the Joint Rules Committee

Date: 8th December 2020 19:11

Your Full Name:

Alice Robison

Email Address:

alicebprobison@gmail.com

Subject Line:

mask wearing and protocol during legislative session

Your Comment:

I do not feel it is all that complicated. Masks required when meeting in person. 6 feet apart. Better yet, meet virtually, online. Then the public has more chance to listen in and follow and comment. Good government at work, yes,? FOR the people of MT not for individuals grab to bolster their individual plans. AND I think you can see nationally that COVID does not care if you are a republican you will get it eventually, like the whole Trump cabinet, and then you give it to your family. IF you are not worried about that because you have access to high quality healthcare and "will recover" then I am afraid you do not consider the thousands of Montanans who live in poverty and have little access to healthcare and have a higher risk of death. A loved one lost is not such an easy thing when it can be avoided. DO there right thing please. It is a no brainier. Thank you.

Upload Written Testimony:

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Fox, Susan

From: webmaster@localhost.legmt.gov
Sent: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 4:30 PM
To: Fox, Susan; Spencer, Nadine; Everts, Todd
Subject: Submission from Joint Rules Committee

Submit Information to the Joint Rules Committee

Date: 8th December 2020 16:29

Your Full Name:
JUDITH P GREGORY

Email Address:
JUDITHGREG2000@YAHOO.COM

Subject Line:
virtual sessions

Your Comment:
For the safety of all involved, please hold sessions of the legislature virtually. It might actually be a good way for some of us to listen in from our distances. The legislature needs to lead on taking this pandemic seriously and avoiding prolonged contact in closed rooms.

Upload Written Testimony:
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Fox, Susan

From: webmaster@localhost.legmt.gov
Sent: Tuesday, December 8, 2020 3:06 PM
To: Fox, Susan; Spencer, Nadine; Everts, Todd
Subject: Submission from Joint Rules Committee

Submit Information to the Joint Rules Committee

Date: 8th December 2020 15:05

Your Full Name:

Katie Goodhart

Email Address:

katiegoodhart@yahoo.com

Subject Line:

Protecting Helena

Your Comment:

With the current Public Health Emergency, it is critical that Montana's legislatures step up and hold this years session remotely. It is not appropriate to put Helena's citizens at risk due to elected officials refusing to wear masks and safely distance. The vast majority of state and office positions are being completed remotely, the legislature should as well.

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