



PO BOX 201706
Helena, MT 59620-1706
(406) 444-3064
FAX (406) 444-3036

Law and Justice Interim Committee

59th Montana Legislature

SENATE MEMBERS

BRENT CROMLEY
JESSE LASLOVICH
DANIEL MCGEE
GARY PERRY
JIM SHOCKLEY
CAROL WILLIAMS

HOUSE MEMBERS

GEORGE EVERETT
JOHN PARKER
DIANE RICE
RON STOKER
BILL WILSON
JEANNE WINDHAM

COMMITTEE STAFF

SHERI HEFFELFINGER, Lead Staff
VALENCIA LANE, Staff Attorney
FONG HOM, Secretary

AGENDA

Meeting #2: Full Committee
2-day meeting, Wed.-Thurs., September 21-22, 2005
Room 102, State Capitol, Helena

DAY 1 - SEPTEMBER 21

- 8:30 a.m. Roll Call
- 8:35 a.m. Background report on civil legal aid, **Ms. Sheri Heffelfinger**, Legislative Research Analyst
- ▶ History of civil legal aid
 - ▶ Montana's civil legal aid landscape
 - ▶ Legal needs study findings
 - ▶ Issue identification
- 9:15 a.m. Current initiatives of the Montana Legal Services Association, assessment of strengths and limitations of staff attorney services provided by the MLSA, analysis of the needs, **Mr. Klaus Sitte, Executive Director, MLSA**
- 9:45 a.m. Pro bono programs, level of participation, and the strengths and limitations of providing pro bono services, analysis of needs, **Chris Manos, Access to Justice Committee, State Bar Association**,
- 10:15 a.m. BREAK
- 10:30 a.m. Self-help programs, level of need, strengths and limitations of self-help, analysis of needs, **Ms. Tara Veazy, Eastern Montana Self-help Law Project**
- 11:00 a.m. What are the civil legal needs of Native Americans and what are the tribal issues involved in providing civil legal services to Native Americans, **Mr. Jim Taylor**
- 11:30 a.m. Activities of the Equal Justice Task Force, assessment of Montana's current capacity to meet needs, identification and analysis of what needs are not being met, **Ms. Nancy Sweeny, Co-Chair, Equal Justice Task Force, Montana Supreme Court**

(more)

AGENDA

Meeting #2: Full Committee
Wed. - Thurs, September 21-22, 2005
Room 102, State Capitol, Helena

DAY 1 - SEPTEMBER 21

- 12:00 noon LUNCH BREAK
- 1:00 p.m. Update: Montana Public Defender Act, **Sheri Heffelfinger**
- 1:15 p.m. Public Comment on SJR 6
- 1:45 p.m. The following guests will each have 3 to 5 minutes to briefly introduce themselves and identify their key concerns related to the SJR 6 issues:
- ▶ **Ms. LaNette Diaz**, advocate for low income client community (WORD)
 - ▶ **Ms. Beth Brenneman**, Montana Advocacy Project
 - ▶ **Ms. Tammy Hinderman**, State Law Library
- 2:00 p.m. **Honorable Russell C. Fagg**, 13th Judicial District Judge, Yellowstone County, joins the discussion by speaker phone
- 2:10 p.m. Committee discussion: Roundtable with panel members from the morning session and the above invited guests. Discussion will be moderated by **Rep. John Parker**, Chairman
- 3:00 p.m. BREAK
- 3:15 p.m. Committee work session: What problems and issues should be further studied and potentially addressed by the committee? What information does the committee need for the next meeting? **Rep. John Parker**, Chairman
- 3:45 p.m. Other business
Adjournment