

Interim Directory of Legislative Committees and Activities

**Includes Other Committees
on Which Legislators Serve**

2013-2014

Prepared by
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PRIMARY ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEES

STATUTORY INTERIM AND OTHER COMMITTEES WITH LEGISLATIVE STAFF SUPPORT

ADDITIONAL COMMITTEES ON WHICH LEGISLATORS SERVE

INTERSTATE ORGANIZATIONS

Legislative Council and Legislative Services Division

<http://leg.mt.gov/legcouncil> or

http://leg.mt.gov/css/committees/administration/legislative_council/2013-14/default.asp

*Statutory Citation: Title 5, chapter 11, MCA
Article V, section 10(4), Montana Constitution*

The Legislative Council is a statutory, bipartisan, standing committee of the Legislature. It consists of six members of the Senate and six members of the House of Representatives, including the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House, and the minority leaders from each house.¹ The Council provides ongoing leadership, direction, and foresight for the efficient operation and improvement of the Legislative Branch. It is also the administrative committee for the Legislative Services Division (LSD).

Some of the specific duties described in Title 5, chapter 11, MCA, include:

- adopting rules governing personnel management for the Legislative Branch, including rules for employee classification and pay with the concurrence of the Legislative Audit and Legislative Finance Committees;
- appointing the Executive Director of the LSD;
- establishing time schedules and deadlines for interim committees, including dates for requesting legislation and completing interim work;
- assisting the LSD in providing oversight of the state government broadcasting service;
- appointing legislators to serve as members of interstate, international, and intergovernmental entities based on recommendations made by legislative leadership; and
- approving the biennial Legislative Branch information technology plan.

¹A member serving based on the member's leadership position who is in the last biennium of service because of term limits may appoint a legislator who is not term-limited to serve in place of the term-limited member.

Other Statutory Responsibilities

Sections 1-11-203, 1-11-301, and 1-11-302, MCA	Require the Legislative Council to provide general supervision of and policy direction to the Code Commissioner and to make decisions on the printing and cost of the Montana Code Annotated.
Sections 1-12-101 and 1-12-102, MCA	Require the Legislative Council to appoint commissioners to the Montana Commission on Uniform State Laws. The Council may accept recommendations for appointments from the State Bar of Montana, the Montana Judges' Association, and the Dean of the University of Montana law school.
Sections 2-1-406 and 2-1-408, MCA	In considering the legality or cost-effectiveness of a federal mandate, federal statute, or state program, the Governor may request assistance from the Legislative Council or its staff. Assistance is at the discretion of the Council.
Section 2-15-1808, MCA	Requires the Legislative Council to provide compensation to the legislative liaisons to the Montana Board of Investments.
Section 2-17-101, MCA	Provides for the Legislative Council to advise the Department of Administration (DOA) in the allocation of space, except for the House and Senate Chambers, for the use of the Legislature.
Section 2-17-518, MCA	Requires the Legislative Council to adopt adequate rules for the use of information technology resources as a part of the Legislative Branch information technology plan.
Sections 2-17-805 and 2-17-825, MCA	The Legislative Council provides advice to the DOA in establishing and maintaining a long-range master plan for the orderly development of the capitol complex. The Council may prepare a written report of its activities and recommendations related to its duties to assist the Legislature in determining whether the recommendations should be implemented.
Section 2-18-201, MCA	Requires the Legislative Council to implement and maintain a broadband classification plan for employees of the Legislative Branch, other than those of the Office of Consumer Counsel.
Section 5-2-201, MCA	The Legislative Council designates the time for holding the pre-session caucuses.

Section 5-2-503, MCA	Legislative Branch entities defined as consolidated under section 5-2-504, MCA, must, among other requirements, follow the administrative policies adopted by and submit its budget proposals through the Legislative Council. The Senate and the House of Representatives or a consolidated entity with statutory hiring authority may hire its own personnel subject to administrative procedures established by the Legislature and Legislative Council. The Legislative Council allocates office space occupied by the Legislative Branch for these consolidated entities.
Section 5-4-204(4)(a), MCA	The Legislative Services Division must provide the form for a sponsor who elects to prepare a sponsor's fiscal note rebuttal.
Section 5-5-202, MCA	If there is a dispute between interim committees as to which committee has proper jurisdiction over a subject, the Legislative Council will make the determination. An interim committee may petition the Legislative Council for jurisdiction of an entity that is attached to an agency for administrative purposes under the jurisdiction of another interim committee, and the Council may shift the assignments unless otherwise provided by law.
Section 5-5-211(5)(b), MCA	If the interim committee workload requires, the Legislative Council may request the appointing authority for interim committee members to appoint one or two additional interim committee members from the majority party and the minority party.
Section 5-5-217, MCA	Gives the Legislative Council the authority to select studies to be conducted during the interim and to assign the studies to the appropriate interim committees.
Section 5-11-105(1)(b) and (1)(c), MCA	Requires that with the concurrence of the Audit Committee and the Legislative Finance Committee, the Legislative Council adopt rules for classification and pay of Legislative Branch employees, other than those of the Office of Consumer Counsel. With the concurrence of the Audit Committee and the Legislative Finance Committee, the Legislative Council adopts rules governing personnel management of Branch employees, other than those of the Office of Consumer Counsel.

Section 5-13-305(3), MCA	Requires the Legislative Auditor to inform the Legislative Council and the Legislative Audit Committee in writing of an administrative policy or rule adopted under section 5-11-105, MCA, that may impair the independence of the division. The Legislative Council must review the rule in question and adopt a revision that is generally applicable to the Legislative Branch and that is designed to correct the policy or rule.
Section 77-2-302, MCA	The Legislative Council serves as the appropriate legislative committee for consultation with the Board of Land Commissioners regarding the disposal, sale, or exchange of certain state lands.
Section 77-2-351, MCA	States that any lands may be sold to or exchanged for other land or for other consideration with another public entity on terms and in a manner that the board, after consultation with the appropriate legislative committee, may determine to be in the state's best interest, subject to The Enabling Act and constitutional restrictions.
Section 90-1-132, MCA	The State-Tribal Economic Development Commission must provide to the Governor, to the Legislative Council, to the Legislative Auditor, and to each of the presiding officers of the tribal governments in Montana a biennial report that summarizes the activities of the Commission.

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None

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Todd Everts, Director of Legal Services
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The Legislative Services Division (LSD) is an independent, nonpartisan, impartial agency of the Legislative Branch that performs those duties and functions assigned by law or as directed or requested by legislators or legislative committees.

The LSD is divided into six offices including the Central Services Office, the Legislative Communications Office, the Office of Research and Policy Analysis, the Legal Services Office, the Office of Legislative Information Technology, and the Legislative Environmental Policy Office.

The **Central Services Office** staff is responsible for general LSD administration, purchasing, payroll, and personnel matters.

Central Services Office

Susan Byorth Fox, Executive Director

Lenore Adams, Facilities Coordinator

Lesley Bergman, Human Resource Specialist

Kelly DaSilva, Human Resource Manager

Dawn Hicks, Accounting Specialist

Jennifer Simmons, Financial Services Manager

The **Legislative Communications Office** coordinates communications and public outreach for the Legislative Branch. The Legislative Reference Center staff provide research and reference services, as well as access to information from many sources for legislators and staff. Office employees also oversee audio-video operations, website content and layout, publication and distribution of various legislative documents including the Montana Code Annotated (MCA) and Annotations, and access to legislator and public information.

Legislative Communications Office

Kevin Hayes, Legislative Communications Officer

Andrew Franks-Ongoy, Publications and Web Content Specialist

Sonia Gavin, Legislative Information Resources Manager

K'Lynn Sloan Harris, Audio-Video Coordinator

Pam Weitz, Library Technician

The **Office of Research and Policy Analysis** and the **Legal Services Office** conduct general and specialized research. Staff from both offices provide professional support to session and interim committees, draft legislation, prepare research reports, and provide information on the Legislature to the public.

The Office of Research and Policy Analysis has primary responsibility for staffing interim committees. The Legal Services Office is responsible for compiling, updating, and editing the Montana Code Annotated and preparing the Annotations under the supervision of the Code Commissioner. The Legal Services Office is required to review all proposed initiatives for compliance with bill drafting standards and prepares legal opinions at the request of legislators. The office provides technical editing services for LSD.

Office of Research and Policy Analysis

Dave Bohyer, Director of Research and Policy Analysis

Casey Barrs, Research Analyst

Courtney Cannon, Receptionist

Dawn Field, Legislative Secretary/Document Technician

Fong Hom, Legislative Secretary/Document Technician

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Pad McCracken, Research Analyst

Megan Moore, Research Analyst

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Sue O'Connell, Research Analyst

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Legislative Secretary, vacant

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Sally Bush, Senior Legislative Technical Editor

Bart Campbell, Attorney

Jaret Coles, Attorney

Connie Dixon, Chief Legislative Technical Editor

Julie Johnson, Attorney

Jesse Northerner, Legislative Technical Editor

Kip Rusek, Senior Proofreader, Annotations Coordinator

Alexis Sandru, Attorney

Laura Sankey, Attorney

Helen Thigpen, Attorney

The **Office of Legislative Information Technology** includes computer network and personal computer support personnel, systems analysts, programmer/analysts, network engineers and architects who develop and maintain the programs and applications used by the Legislative Branch, including an online bill status system and the Branch website.

Office of Legislative Information Technology

Dale Gow, Chief Information Officer

Mike Allen, Systems Analyst

Ryan Bell, Computer Support Specialist

Jerry Churchill, Programmer Analyst

Steve Eller, Computer Systems Manager

Skye Foster, Network Engineer

Josh Gillespie, Network Engineer, Acting Network Manager

Jim Gordon, Programmer Analyst

Cindy Lockett, Network Administrator

Dale Matheson, Systems Analyst

Darrin McLean, Enterprise Architect

Alysa Semans, Programmer Analyst

Jeff Thomas, Network Administrator

Network Manager, vacant

The **Legislative Environmental Policy Office** provides staff services to the Environmental Quality Council.

Legislative Environmental Policy Office

Joe Kolman, Legislative Environmental Analyst

Jason Mohr, Research Analyst

Sonja Nowakowski, Research Analyst

Hope Stockwell, Research Analyst

Nadine Spencer, Legislative Secretary

Helen Thigpen, Attorney, Legislative Services Division

LSD staff may be contacted by e-mail. In *most* cases, state employee e-mail addresses are composed of the first letter of the staff person's first name (in some cases, the first and second letter of the first name) followed by the last name, then "@mt.gov".

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Legislative Audit Committee and Legislative Audit Division

<http://leg.mt.gov/lac> or

<http://leg.mt.gov/css/committees/administration/audit/committee.asp>

*Statutory Citation: Title 5, chapter 13, MCA
Article V, section 10(4), Montana Constitution*

The Legislative Audit Committee is a bicameral and bipartisan standing committee of the Montana Legislature. It consists of six members of the Senate and six members of the House of Representatives. The Audit Committee appoints, consults with, and advises the Legislative Auditor. The Audit Committee reviews the audit reports submitted by the Legislative Auditor, releases the audit reports to the public, and serves as the conduit between the Legislative Auditor and the Legislature.

Other Statutory Responsibilities

- | | |
|------------------------|---|
| Section 2-8-302, MCA | Requires that before an agency may privatize a program, it must prepare a privatization plan. The Audit Committee conducts a public hearing on the proposed plan and, at least 30 days prior to the proposed implementation date, votes to recommend approval or disapproval of the privatization plan to the Governor. The recommendation of the Committee is advisory only. |
| Section 2-15-2224, MCA | Provides that if directed by the Audit Committee, the Legislative Audit Division may provide information concerning the accuracy of data collection and reporting that supports performance measure data collection at the Department of Public Health and Human Services. |

Section 5-11-105(1)(b)
and (1)(c), MCA

Requires that with the concurrence of the Audit Committee and the Legislative Finance Committee, the Legislative Council adopt rules for classification and pay of Legislative Branch employees, other than those of the Office of Consumer Counsel.

With the concurrence of the Audit Committee and the Legislative Finance Committee, the Legislative Council adopts rules governing personnel management of Branch employees, other than those of the Office of Consumer Counsel.

Section 5-13-305(3),
MCA

Requires the Legislative Auditor to inform the Legislative Council and the Audit Committee in writing of an administrative policy or rule adopted under section 5-11-105, MCA, that may impair the independence of the division. The Legislative Council must review the rule in question and adopt a revision that is generally applicable to the Legislative Branch and that is designed to cure the impairment.

Section 17-7-160(3),
MCA

Requires the Department of Justice each fiscal year to provide to the Audit Committee a detailed report on all positions in the Montana Highway Patrol.

Section 17-7-161(3),
MCA

Requires the Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks each fiscal year to provide to the Audit Committee a detailed report on all authorized game warden positions in the Department.

Section 17-7-162(2),
MCA

Requires the Board of Public Education each fiscal year to provide the Audit Committee with a detailed report on all authorized positions in the Montana School for the Deaf and Blind.

Sections 23-7-411 and
23-7-412, MCA

Every 2 years, the Legislative Audit Division conducts a comprehensive audit of all aspects of security in the operation of the Lottery. Specific audit findings relating to security invasion techniques are confidential and may be reported only to the Audit Committee, the Director of the Lottery, the Lottery Commission, the Attorney General, and the Governor.

Section 39-71-2361,
MCA

Provides that the Insurance Commissioner review the State Fund financial and compliance audit and rate review and report any concerns or recommendations based on the review to the Governor, the Audit Committee, and the Economic Affairs Interim Committee.

Section 53-1-203(3),
MCA

Prior to entering into a contract for a period of 20 years, the Department of Corrections submits the proposed contract to the Legislative Audit Committee. The Legislative Audit Division reviews the contract and makes recommendations or comments to the Legislative Audit Committee. The Committee may submit comments and recommendations to the Department.

Section 53-30-608(1),
MCA

Allows the Audit Committee to request the Legislative Audit Division to review the procedures by which a contract with a private correctional facility was awarded and to review the contract prior to execution.

MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

House Members

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Assigned Studies

None

The Audit Committee appoints the Legislative Auditor, who heads the Legislative Audit Division (LAD). Through financial-compliance, performance, and information system audits, LAD staffs perform independent audits and provide factual and objective information to the legislative and executive managers of the public trust.

Specifically, an audit of a state agency is conducted to determine whether the agency is properly managing expenditures, using funds only to further authorized activities and in accordance with the requirements of applicable laws and regulations; whether the agency is properly accounting for all revenues, receipts, and expenditures arising from its activities; whether the agency is accurately reporting and fully disclosing its financial status and the scope of its activities and operations to the Governor, the Legislature, and central control agencies; whether the agency is efficiently carrying out the activities

and programs authorized by the Legislature; and whether the agency is adequately safeguarding and controlling its assets and using them efficiently.

Section 5-13-311, MCA, provides for a toll-free hotline to the LAD that Montana residents may use in reporting fraud, waste, and abuse in state government. The LAD is responsible for maintaining the hotline, reviewing all calls received, keeping a record of each call, analyzing and verifying the information relayed in the call, and potentially conducting additional work to document the activity. The Legislative Auditor is required to periodically update the Committee on the use of the hotline, results of the reviews, verifications, referrals, and any corrective action taken by the appropriate agency. The hotline number is 1-800-222-4446 outside Helena and 444-4446 from a Helena location.

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Legislative Finance Committee and Legislative Fiscal Division

<http://leg.mt.gov/lfc> or

<http://leg.mt.gov/css/Committees/Administration/Finance/2014-15/2014-lfc-default.asp>

Statutory Citation: Title 5, chapter 12, MCA

The Legislative Finance Committee (LFC) is a statutory, bipartisan, standing committee of the Montana Legislature. It consists of four members of the Senate Finance and Claims Committee appointed by that committee's chair, two members of the Senate appointed at large by the Committee on Committees, four members of the House of Representatives Appropriations Committee appointed by that committee's chair, and two members of the House appointed at large by the Speaker.

The LFC appoints a Legislative Fiscal Analyst whose duties are to head the Legislative Fiscal Division (LFD), provide information regarding state government financial matters, assist in estimating revenue from state taxes, fees, and other sources, analyze the executive budget, assist the Revenue and Transportation Committee in performing its revenue-estimating duties, and generally assist the Legislature in all matters of compiling and analyzing financial information.

Other Statutory Responsibilities

The LFC has many responsibilities described in other areas of the statutes related to revenue estimating and reporting duties.

MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

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Assigned Studies

House Joint Resolution Study the state pay plans.
No. 17

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Robert Miller, Fiscal Analyst

Taryn Purdy, Principal Fiscal Analyst

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PRIMARY ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEES

STATUTORY INTERIM AND OTHER COMMITTEES WITH LEGISLATIVE STAFF SUPPORT

ADDITIONAL COMMITTEES ON WHICH LEGISLATORS SERVE

INTERSTATE ORGANIZATIONS

Children, Families, Health, and Human Services

<http://leg.mt.gov/cfhhs> or

<http://leg.mt.gov/css/committees/interim/2013-2014/children-family/default.asp>

Statutory Citation: Section 5-5-225, MCA

The Children, Families, Health, and Human Services Interim Committee (CFHHS) is a joint bipartisan committee of the Legislature that meets between legislative sessions. The CFHHS monitors the activities of the Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS), conducts interim studies, and generally reviews issues related to health and human services.

Other Statutory Responsibilities

Section 2-15-225, MCA	Requires the Interagency Coordinating Council (ICC) to develop and implement benchmarks for state prevention programs for at-risk children and families. The ICC is required to report on these efforts to the CFHHS Committee.
Section 2-15-2225, MCA	Calls for the DPHHS to report performance data to the CFHHS Committee and the Governor's Office of Budget and Program Planning. The CFHHS Committee must use the performance data to review the DPHHS's strategic planning documents as they relate to prospective legislation.
Section 5-5-215(1)(d), MCA	States that interim committees must review statutorily established advisory councils and required reports of assigned agencies to make recommendations to the next Legislature on retention or elimination.
Section 33-40-105(8), MCA	Allows the creation of a patient-centered medical home model of health care and requires a report to the CFHHS before Sept. 30, 2016, on the savings generated by the medical home model.
Section 37-3-203(3)(d), MCA	Mandates that the Board of Medical Examiners report to the CFHHS Committee by August 1 of each year on the number and types of complaints filed over physician practices in providing written certification for use of marijuana for a debilitating medical condition.

Sections 37-7-1502 and 37-7-1514, MCA	Create a prescription drug registry and require the Board of Pharmacy to report on its costs and uses to the appropriate interim committees after the registry is created.
Section 50-46-343, MCA	Requires the CFHHS Committee to provide oversight of DPHHS activities related to the marijuana registry program and the medical marijuana laws and require the Committee to identify issues that may need future legislative attention and develop legislation for the next regular session of the Legislature.
Section 52-2-311, MCA	Provides that the DPHHS must report biannually to the CFHHS Committee on the out-of-state placement of children with mental health needs.
Section 53-1-714, MCA	Requires the DPHHS to provide a biennial report on the statewide 2-1-1 system to the CFHHS Committee and to the Legislature.
Section 53-2-215(19), MCA	Calls for the DPHHS to present a section 1115 waiver proposal to the House Appropriations Committee or, during the interim, the CFHHS Committee prior to the submission of the proposal and after final approval from the federal government.
Section 53-4-209(6), MCA	Provides that the DPHHS must report annually to the CFHHS and Legislative Finance Committees on the agency's efforts related to the Montana Parents as Scholars Program that is available to Temporary Assistance for Needy Families recipients.
Section 53-6-710, MCA	Establishes procedures for the DPHHS to follow to enter into any Medicaid managed care contract. Requires the associated advisory council to submit a report of its findings related to the public comment process to the appropriate interim or legislative committee, the Legislative Auditor's Office, and the DPHHS.
Section 53-21-1102, MCA	Requires the DPHHS to develop a suicide reduction plan and report on the plan to the CFHHS Committee.

Membership

Joint Rule 30-70

At least 50% of the members must have served on the following session standing committees:

- House Appropriations
- House Human Services
- Senate Finance and Claims
- Senate Public Health, Welfare, and Safety

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Assigned Studies

House Joint Resolution No. 16 Study state institutions providing services to individuals with mental illness, intellectual disabilities, and substance abuse disorders.

Senate Joint Resolution No. 20 Study ways to reduce prescription drug abuse.

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Economic Affairs

<http://leg.mt.gov/eaic> or

<http://leg.mt.gov/css/committees/interim/2013-2014/economic-affairs/default.asp>

Statutory Citation: Section 5-5-223, MCA

The Economic Affairs Interim Committee (EAIC) is a joint bipartisan committee of the Montana Legislature that meets during the interim between legislative sessions. The Committee conducts interim studies and generally reviews issues related to economic development. It also monitors the programs and functions of the Departments of Agriculture, Commerce, Labor and Industry, and Livestock, as well as the Office of the State Auditor and Insurance Commissioner, the Governor's Office of Economic Development, the Montana State Fund, and the Division of Banking and Financial Institutions.

Other Statutory Responsibilities

Section 2-8-404, MCA	Before January 1 of even-numbered years, the appropriate interim committee is responsible for notifying the Department of Labor and Industry if it wants to review one or more licensing boards or programs to determine the need for the board or program and its financial solvency or appropriate administrative attachment.
Section 2-15-1019, MCA	Calls for two members of the EAIC to act as liaisons to the Board of Directors of the State Compensation Insurance Fund.
Section 2-15-2511, MCA	Requires two members of the EAIC to serve on the Rail Service Competition Council and requires the Council to report to the Committee.
Section 5-5-215(1)(d), MCA	States that interim committees must review statutorily established advisory councils and required reports of assigned agencies to make recommendations to the next Legislature on retention or elimination.
Section 22-3-1002, MCA	Requires a biennial review by the appropriate interim committee of the administrative fee negotiated between the Montana Heritage Preservation and Development Commission and the Department of Commerce (DOC).

Section 33-39-101, MCA	The committee receives an annual report and a notice from the Interstate Insurance Compact Commission prior to the adoption of a uniform standard.
Section 33-22-1504, MCA	Requires a termination plan for the Montana Comprehensive Health Association and for the Insurance Commissioner to present the plan to the EAIC.
Section 37-1-101, MCA	Establishes that the Department of Labor and Industry provide notice to the appropriate legislative interim committee when a board cannot operate in a cost-effective manner and make recommendations to the committee for legislation revising the board's operations to achieve fiscal solvency.
Section 37-1-107, MCA	The Department of Labor and Industry is required to convene a joint meeting once every 2 years of two or more boards that have licensees with dual licensure in related professions or occupations, have licensees licensed by another board in a related profession or with similar scopes of practice, or have issues of joint concern or related jurisdiction with each other. The Department must report to the interim committee responsible for monitoring boards with regard to attendance and issues of concern addressed by the boards.
Section 37-1-142, MCA	Requires the interim committee responsible for monitoring professional and occupational licensing boards to review one-half of the licensing boards each interim to determine whether the boards are still necessary. Terminates December 31, 2014.
Section 37-1-145, MCA	Requires professional and occupational licensing boards to determine the equivalency between military training and licensure training and to report their progress to the appropriate interim committee by January 1, 2014.
Section 39-71-2361, MCA	Provides that the Insurance Commissioner review the State Fund financial and compliance audit and rate review and report any concerns or recommendations based on the review to the Governor, the Legislative Audit Committee, and the EAIC.

Section 90-1-182, MCA	Allows local governments to request that the DOC conduct socioeconomic impact analyses of significant federal land management proposals that may impact local government communities. The Department may report on the requests to an appropriate legislative interim committee.
Section 90-1-503, MCA	Requires the DOC to submit a status report on the Distressed Wood Products Industry Revolving Loan Account to the EAIC.
Section 1, Chapter 300, Laws of 2013	Requires that the Departments of Agriculture, Livestock, and Public Health and Human Services examine and make recommendations to modernize Montana's food laws and provide a report to the Committee no later than May 15, 2014.

Membership

Joint Rule 30-70

At least 50% of the members must have served on the following session standing committees:

- House Agriculture
- House Appropriations
- House Business and Labor
- House Federal Relations, Energy, and Telecommunications
- Senate Agriculture, Livestock, and Irrigation
- Senate Business, Labor, and Economic Affairs
- Senate Finance and Claims

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Assigned Studies

Chapter 330, Laws of 2011	Study licensing boards for continuation or termination purposes.
House Joint Resolution No. 25	Study select workers' compensation Issues.
Senate Joint Resolution No. 24	Study military training equivalency for civilian jobs.

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Education and Local Government

<http://leg.mt.gov/elgic> or

<http://leg.mt.gov/css/committees/interim/2013-2014/education-and-local-government/default.asp>

Statutory Citation: Section 5-5-224, MCA

The Education and Local Government Interim Committee (ELG) is a joint bipartisan committee of the Legislature that meets between legislative sessions. The ELG's statutory duties include reviewing proposed administrative rules and draft legislation, monitoring the operations of and providing information to the State Board of Education, the Board of Public Education, the Board of Regents of Higher Education, and the Office of Public Instruction, and completing assigned studies. In addition, the ELG acts as a liaison with cities and counties, providing an important forum for discussion of strong, effective governance at the community and county level.

Other Statutory Responsibilities

Section 5-5-215(1)(d),
MCA

States that interim committees must review statutorily established advisory councils and required reports of assigned agencies to make recommendations to the next Legislature on retention or elimination.

Section 20-7-101, MCA

Requires the Board of Public Education, prior to adoption or amendment of any accreditation standard, to submit its proposals to the ELG for review. The ELG must request that a fiscal analysis be prepared by the Legislative Fiscal Division (LFD). The LFD must provide its analysis to the ELG and to the Governor's Office of Budget and Program Planning to be used in the preparation of the executive budget.

Sections 20-9-161 and
20-9-323, MCA

Establishes that school districts that adopt certain budget amendments that in combination with other amendments exceed 10% of the district's adopted general fund budget must report to the ELG and the Board of Public Education with an explanation of why the budget amendment is necessary. Beginning July 1, 2020, the combined ending fund balance for all budgeted funds of a school district may not exceed 300% of the maximum general fund budget and any exception to the limits must be reported to the ELG.

Section 22-3-423(13),
MCA

Requires the State Historic Preservation Officer to report to the ELG on the preservation needs of heritage properties owned and maintained by state agencies.

Section 82-2-701, MCA

Requires the Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology to report to the ELG and the Environmental Quality Council on its investigation of certain sand and gravel deposits within 1 year of starting its investigations.

Chapter 321, Laws of
2013

Adopts the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children. Requires representatives of the Great Falls and Helena school districts and a member of the military designated by the Adjutant General to report to the ELG by July 1, 2014, regarding the state's participation in the Compact.

Membership

Joint Rule 30-70

At least 50% of the members must have served on the following session standing committees:

House Appropriations

House Education

House Local Government

Senate Education and Cultural Resources

Senate Finance and Claims

Senate Local Government

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Assigned Studies

House Joint Resolution
No. 2

Study electronic records management by state and local
government.

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Energy and Telecommunications

<http://leg.mt.gov/etic> or

<http://leg.mt.gov/css/committees/interim/2013-2014/energy-and-telecommunications/default.asp>

Statutory Citation: Section 5-5-230, MCA

The Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee (ETIC) has broad oversight over a range of topics related to energy and telecommunication in Montana. The Committee conducts interim studies as assigned by the Legislative Council or selected by members and reviews the administrative rules proposed by the Department of Public Service Regulation and the Public Service Commission.

Other Statutory Responsibilities

Section 5-5-215(1)(d), MCA	States that interim committees must review statutorily established advisory councils and required reports of assigned agencies to make recommendations to the next Legislature on retention or elimination.
Sections 69-3-2009 and 69-3-2010, MCA	Require certain public utilities, competitive electricity suppliers, cooperative utilities, or owners of renewable electrical generation facilities selling credits produced by the facility to file a report each interim with the ETIC concerning the purchase or sale of renewable energy credits bought or sold within Montana. The ETIC reviews the reports and, if necessary, submits recommendations regarding the use of renewable energy credits to the Legislature.
Section 69-8-402, MCA	Requires public utilities and cooperative utilities to submit annual summary reports of Universal System Benefits (USB) Programs to the ETIC. Also requires the ETIC, before September 15 of even-numbered years, to review the USB Programs and, if necessary, submit related recommendations to the Legislature.
Section 85-1-501, MCA	Requires the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation to assess dams owned or controlled by the Department for hydroelectric potential and report the results to the ETIC and the Water Policy Interim Committee before September 1 of even-numbered years.

Section 90-3-1301, MCA	Allows the Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology to conduct geothermal research and, prior to each legislative session, update the ETIC on geothermal research and funding.
Section 90-4-1003, MCA	Requires the ETIC, at its first meeting of the interim, to review the state's energy policy and determine if potential revisions should be discussed at future meetings. If revisions are proposed, the ETIC must forward its recommendations to the Legislature.

Membership

Joint Rule 30-70

At least 50% of the members must have served on the following session standing committees:

- House Appropriations
- House Federal Relations, Energy, and Telecommunications
- Senate Finance and Claims
- Senate Energy

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Assigned Studies

Senate Joint Resolution No. 6	Study the Montana Renewable Power Production and Rural Economic Development Act.
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Environmental Quality Council

<http://leg.mt.gov/eqc> or

<http://leg.mt.gov/css/committees/interim/2013-2014/eqc/default.asp>

*Statutory Citation: Title 5, chapter 16, MCA
Title 75, chapter 1, part 3, MCA*

The Environmental Quality Council (EQC) is a 17-member committee created by the Montana Environmental Policy Act (MEPA). In general, the EQC reviews and appraises state programs and activities related to the environment to ensure compliance with MEPA (Title 75, chapter 1, parts 1 through 3, MCA).

Other Statutory Responsibilities

Sections 2-4-402 through 2-4-406 and 2-4-410 through 2-4-412, MCA	Describe the administrative rule oversight powers and duties of the EQC.
Section 2-15-1514, MCA	Requires participation of a Legislative Services Division staff person on the Natural Resource Data System Advisory Committee.
Section 2-15-1523, MCA	Allows a representative of the Legislative Services Division to participate as an ex officio member on the Ground Water Assessment Steering Committee.
Sections 5-5-202, 5-5-211, and 5-5-215, MCA	Discuss the organization and duties of interim committees. Section 5-5-215(1)(d), MCA, states that interim committees must review statutorily established advisory councils and required reports of assigned agencies to make recommendations to the next Legislature on retention or elimination.
Section 5-5-231, MCA	Requires the EQC and the Water Policy Interim Committee to coordinate on water issues.
Sections 5-16-101 through 5-16-105, MCA	Discuss the composition and terms of the EQC.

Sections 75-1-201 and 75-1-208, MCA	Require state natural resource agencies to submit copies of environmental review documents to the EQC. A project sponsor may appear before the EQC at a regularly scheduled meeting to discuss issues regarding an executive agency's environmental review of the project.
Section 75-1-314, MCA	States that the Departments of Environmental Quality (DEQ), Agriculture, and Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC) must report specific compliance and enforcement information to the EQC.
Section 75-1-324, MCA	Lists the ongoing duties of the EQC.
Section 75-5-313, MCA	States that the DEQ must provide a summary of the status of the development of temporary nutrient criteria to the EQC on or before July 1 of each year.
Section 75-5-703, MCA	Requires the DEQ to report, on or before July 1 of each even-numbered year, its progress in completing TMDLs (total maximum daily load) and the current schedule for completion of TMDLs.
Section 75-10-111, MCA	Requires the DEQ to circulate solid waste management and resource recovery plans to the EQC for its review.
Section 75-11-521, MCA	Establishes DEQ benchmarks and reporting requirements regarding the closure of petroleum storage tank release sites.
Section 77-2-366, MCA	Requires the DNRC to submit a detailed report of the land banking program to the EQC by July 1 of even-numbered years. The DNRC must also provide a summary report to the EQC on or before July 1 of each year on sales of state land cabins or home sites.
Section 82-2-701, MCA	Requires the Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology to report to the EQC and the Education and Local Government Interim Committee on its investigation of certain sand and gravel deposits within 1 year of starting its investigations.
Section 85-1-203, MCA	Mandates that the DNRC submit a copy of the State Water Plan to the EQC.
Section 85-1-621, MCA	Requires the DNRC to submit a biennial report to the EQC describing the status of the Renewable Resource Grant and Loan Program.

Section 85-2-105, MCA	Establishes the EQC's water policy duties. The EQC is specifically required to analyze and comment on the State Water Plan, the state water development process, water-related research, and the adequacy of the water resources data management system.
Section 85-2-281, MCA	Mandates that the Water Court and the DNRC report to the EQC on the progress of the adjudication process until 2020.
Section 85-2-338, MCA	Requires the Clark Fork River Basin Steering Committee to report periodically to the Legislature.
Section 85-2-350, MCA	Requires the Clark Fork River Basin Task Force to report annually to the EQC.
Section 85-2-436, MCA	Provides that the Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks (DFWP) submit a summary report to the EQC by December 1 of odd-numbered years of all appropriation rights changed to an instream flow purpose in the previous 2 years.
Section 85-20-1401, MCA	States that the DNRC must provide a biennial report to the EQC on state water reservations applied for by the U.S. Forest Service and the action taken by DNRC on the applications.
Section 87-1-901, MCA	Establishes that the DFWP must report annually to the EQC on gray wolf management and conservation, including the tracking, hunting, trapping, and taking of gray wolves.

Membership

The EQC consists of six senators, six representatives, four members of the public, and the Governor or a representative designated by the Governor serving as an ex officio member. At least 50% of the Council's legislative members must be selected from the session standing committees that consider issues within the jurisdiction of the EQC.

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Assigned Studies

Chapter 395, Laws of 2013	Study hunting and fishing licensing.
Senate Joint Resolution No. 4	Study ways to improve the marketing, management, operation, maintenance, and funding of state-owned sites at Virginia City, Nevada City, and Reeder's Alley.
Senate Joint Resolution No. 15	Study federal public land management.

The EQC appoints a Legislative Environmental Analyst, subject to approval by the Legislative Council, who heads the Legislative Environmental Policy Office (LEPO). LEPO is under the general administration of the Legislative Services Division and provides staff support to the EQC.

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Law and Justice

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Statutory Citation: Section 5-5-226, MCA

The Law and Justice Interim Committee (LJIC) is a joint bipartisan committee of the Legislature that meets between legislative sessions. The LJIC monitors the activities of the Department of Corrections, the Department of Justice, and the Office of State Public Defender, serves as a liaison to the Judicial Branch, examines law and justice policy issues, and makes recommendations to the Legislature. The LJIC's responsibilities include reviewing the administrative rules and proposed legislation of assigned agencies.

Other Statutory Responsibilities

Section 2-15-2013, MCA	Requires the Board of Crime Control to report annually on the status and performance of restorative justice grant programs.
Section 2-15-2017, MCA	Requires the Domestic Violence Fatality Review Commission to report to the LJIC prior to each regular legislative session.
Section 3-1-702, MCA	The Office of Court Administrator is required to report annually to the LJIC on the status of the development and procurement of information technology within the Judicial Branch.
Section 5-5-215(1)(d), MCA	States that interim committees must review statutorily established advisory councils and required reports of assigned agencies to make recommendations to the next Legislature on retention or elimination.
Section 41-5-2003, MCA	The Office of Court Administrator is required to annually report to the LJIC on the results of its evaluation of out-of-home placements, programs, and services of juveniles involved with youth probation.
Section 46-23-902, MCA	Before July 1 of even-numbered years, the Multiagency Reentry Task Force must report to the LJIC regarding the development, implementation, and effectiveness of reentry programs for released offenders at high risk of recidivism.

Section 47-1-105, MCA

Requires the Public Defender Commission to submit a biennial report to the Governor, the Supreme Court, and the Legislature. Each interim, the Commission is also required to specifically report to the LJIC.

Membership

Joint Rule 30-70

At least 50% of the members must have served on the following session standing committees:

- House Appropriations
- House Judiciary
- Senate Finance and Claims
- Senate Judiciary

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Assigned Studies

Senate Joint Resolution Study Board of Pardons and Parole.
No. 3

Senate Joint Resolution Study family law procedures and alternatives.
No. 22

Staff

Rachel Weiss, Research Analyst

Julianne Burkhardt, Attorney

Dawn Field, Legislative Secretary

Legislative Branch Information Technology Planning Council

<http://leg.mt.gov/css/committees/interim/2013-2014/information-technology/default.asp>

Statutory Citation: Title 5, chapter 11, part 4, MCA

The Information Technology Planning Council is responsible for reviewing and maintaining the Legislative Branch information technology plan. The Council must approve and validate the Branch architecture program, review systems for improvements, prioritize information technology initiatives, adopt technology standards, and consider information technology to support branch security, disaster recovery, and continuity of government.

Other Statutory Responsibilities

Section 2-15-1021, MCA	Requires for the Legislative Branch Information Technology Planning Council to appoint to the Information Technology Board a member that represents the Legislative Branch.
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Membership

The Council has 10 members, including the Secretary of the Senate, a representative of the Senate designated by the President, the Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives, a representative of the House designated by the Speaker, the Executive Director of the Legislative Services Division, who serves as Presiding Officer, the Legislative Auditor, the Legislative Fiscal Analyst, the Consumer Counsel, the Chief Information Officer of the Legislative Branch, and a nonvoting designee of the Director of the Department of Administration.

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

Legislative Members

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Ms. Marilyn Miller
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Ms. Lindsey Grovom
Chief Clerk of the House

Legislative Consumer Committee and Consumer Counsel

<http://leg.mt.gov/consumer> or

http://leg.mt.gov/css/committees/administration/consumer_counsel/default.asp

Statutory Citation: Title 5, chapter 15, MCA

Title 69, chapters 1 and 2, MCA

Article XIII, section 2, Montana Constitution

The Consumer Counsel represents Montana public utility and transportation consumers before the Public Service Commission, state and federal courts, and administrative agencies in matters concerning public utility regulation. The Consumer Counsel, a position required by the Montana Constitution, is appointed by the Legislative Consumer Committee.

The Committee is required to meet at least quarterly. Meetings involve discussions with industry representatives, reports on Consumer Counsel staff activities, review and status updates of current cases, and review of contracts with expert witnesses.

Membership

Two senators and two representatives, appointed by the Senate Committee on Committees and the Speaker of the House, respectively, serve on the Committee.

MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

House Members

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Mary Wright, Attorney

Revenue and Transportation

<http://leg.mt.gov/rtic> or

<http://leg.mt.gov/css/committees/interim/2013-2014/revenue-and-transportation/default.asp>

Statutory Citation: Section 5-5-227, MCA

The Revenue and Transportation Interim Committee is a 12-member, joint bipartisan committee of the Legislature that meets between legislative sessions. It has administrative rule review, draft legislation review, program evaluation, and monitoring responsibilities for the Department of Revenue (DOR) and the Montana Department of Transportation (MDT). The committee prepares an estimate of revenue available for appropriation for each legislative session.

Other Statutory Responsibilities

Section 5-5-215(1)(d), MCA	States that interim committees must review statutorily established advisory councils and required reports of assigned agencies to make recommendations to the next Legislature on retention or elimination.
Section 5-12-302(6), MCA	Requires the Legislative Fiscal Analyst to assist the Committee in performing its revenue estimating duties.
Section 15-1-230, MCA	Requires the DOR to report to the Committee at least once each year on the number and type of taxpayers claiming the credit for contributions to qualified endowments (section 15-30-2328, MCA), the total amount of the credit claimed, the total amount of the credit recaptured, and the DOR's cost for administering the credit.
Section 15-7-111(4), MCA	Provides that the DOR must submit sales assessment ratio studies of residences at the end of the second and fourth years of each revaluation cycle to allow the Committee to be apprised of housing market and value trends.
Section 15-24-3211, MCA	Requires the DOR to report to the Committee by September 15, 2014, on the use of property tax abatement for gray water systems.

Section 15-30-2336(1)(b), MCA	Directs the Committee to determine if a change in the relief multiple for the income tax credit for the amount of property taxes paid for statewide school equalization levies on a principal residence is justified based on actual and projected revenue and spending and any other appropriate factors.
Section 15-31-322(2), MCA	Provides that the DOR must submit a biennial update to the Committee of countries that may be considered a tax haven under section 15-31-322(1)(f), MCA.
Section 15-32-703(10), MCA	Requires the DOR to report to the Committee at least once each year regarding the number and type of taxpayers claiming a tax credit for the costs of investments in depreciable property used for storing or blending biodiesel with petroleum diesel, the total amount of the credit claimed, and the DOR's costs for administering the credit.
Section 15-70-234, MCA	Requires the MDT to report as needed, after negotiations are complete and before final agreement is submitted to the Attorney General, on the status of motor fuel tax cooperative agreement negotiations with the state's Indian tribes.
Section 15-70-369(7), MCA	Calls for the MDT to report to the Committee at least once each year on the number and type of taxpayers claiming a refund (1 cent a gallon for retailers or 2 cents a gallon for distributors) for biodiesel sold, the total amount of the refund claimed, and the MDT's cost associated with administering the fund.
Section 17-7-138(1)(a), MCA	The Budget Director is required to present an explanation of any significant change in agency or program scope to the appropriate interim committee.
Section 17-7-140(4), MCA	Provides that the Budget Director must notify the Committee of the amount of actual or projected receipts that is less than the amount projected to be received in the revenue estimate. The Committee is required to make recommendations to the Budget Director on the amount of the revenue shortfall. The Budget Director must consider the recommendations before certifying a general fund budget deficit.
Section 61-10-154(8), MCA	Requires a report from the MDT at least once a year on the Department's authority to stop and inspect, if probable cause exists, diesel-powered vehicles to determine compliance with provisions of the special fuels use tax and the impacts enforcement has had on the state special revenue fund.

Membership

Joint Rule 30-70

At least 50% of the members must have served on the following session standing committees:

- House Appropriations
- House Taxation
- House Transportation
- Senate Finance and Claims
- Senate Highways and Transportation
- Senate Taxation

MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

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Assigned Studies

Senate Joint Resolution No. 23	Study Montana's tax appeal and hearing process and the options available for streamlining and improving the appeal process.
Senate Joint Resolution No. 26	Study transporting oversize loads through Montana.

Staff

Megan Moore, Research Analyst
Jaret Coles, Attorney
Fong Hom, Legislative Secretary

State Administration and Veterans' Affairs

<http://leg.mt.gov/sava> or

<http://leg.mt.gov/css/committees/interim/2013-2014/state-administration-and-veterans-affairs/default.asp>

Statutory Citation: Section 5-5-228, MCA

The State Administration and Veterans' Affairs Interim Committee (SAVA) is a joint bipartisan committee of the legislature that meets between legislative sessions. The committee monitors the activities of the Department of Administration, the Department of Military Affairs, the Office of the Secretary of State, the Office of the Commissioner of Political Practices, and entities attached to these agencies for administrative purposes, examines policy issues that include procurement, information technology, state employee pay and benefits, tort claims, elections, campaign financing and practices, the National Guard and armories, veterans, disaster and emergency services, and public employee retirement systems, and makes recommendations to the full Legislature on topics within the Committee's purview. The Committee's responsibilities also include reviewing the administrative rules of assigned Executive Branch agencies and authorizing agency legislation for drafting.

Other Statutory Responsibilities

Section 2-15-1205, MCA	Requires that a representative of the SAVA serve as a nonvoting member on the Board of Veterans' Affairs.
Section 2-17-512, MCA	Calls for the Department of Administration to report to the appropriate interim committee on a regular basis on the information technology activities of the Department.
Section 2-17-804, MCA	Requires the Capitol Complex Advisory Council to report to the SAVA by September 15 of each year preceding a legislative session on requests that the Council has reviewed for naming buildings, spaces, and rooms and for placing items in the capitol complex or on the capitol complex grounds.

Section 5-5-215(1)(d), MCA	States that interim committees must review statutorily established advisory councils and required reports of assigned agencies to make recommendations to the next Legislature on retention or elimination.
Section 5-11-210, MCA	Requires that the SAVA receive from the Legislative Services Division copies of all reports required under sections 17-6-230, 19-2-405, 19-2-407, and 19-20-201, MCA, that are made available to the Legislature.
Section 10-2-102, MCA	Requires the Board of Veterans' Affairs to prepare a biennial report to the Governor, the Department of Military Affairs, the appropriate legislative interim committee, and veterans' service organizations. The report must include but is not limited to Montana veteran demographic information, the financial impact of division benefit claim services received by Montana veterans, and a summary of the general and special revenue budgets and expenditures for veterans' affairs.
Section 19-3-117, MCA	Requires the Public Employees' Retirement Board to provide an actuarial report to the SAVA. The report must provide a trend analysis of the system's progress toward 100% funding.
Section 19-20-216, MCA	Requires the Teachers' Retirement Board to provide an actuarial report to the SAVA. The report must provide a trend analysis of the system's progress toward 100% funding.

Membership

Joint Rule 30-70

At least 50% of the members must have served on the following session standing committees:

- House Appropriations
- House State Administration
- Senate Finance and Claims
- Senate State Administration

MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

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Sen. Dave Lewis (R)
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Sen. Sue Malek (D)
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Assigned Studies

House Joint Resolution No. 1 Study Office of Commissioner of Political Practices.

Senate Joint Resolution No. 14 Study combining primary and school elections.

Staff

Sheri Scurr, Research Analyst, Legislative Services Division

Ginger Aldrich, Attorney, Legislative Services Division

Legislative Secretary, Legislative Services Division

State-Tribal Relations

<http://leg.mt.gov/tribal> or

<http://leg.mt.gov/css/committees/interim/2013-2014/state-tribal-relations/default.asp>

Statutory Citation: Section 5-5-229, MCA

The State-Tribal Relations Committee acts as a liaison with tribal governments, encourages state-tribal and local government-tribal cooperation, conducts interim studies as assigned, and may propose legislation and report its activities, findings, or recommendations to the Legislature.

Other Statutory Responsibilities

Section 90-11-102, MCA

The State Director of Indian Affairs must report in detail at every meeting of the Committee regarding actions taken by the State-Tribal Economic Development Commission to carry out its duties.

Membership

The eight-member bipartisan Committee is chosen by the Speaker of the House (four members) and the Senate Committee on Committees (four members).

MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

House Members

Rep. Clarena Brockie (D)

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Rep. Forrestina (Frosty) Calf Boss Ribs (D)

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Rep. Nicholas Schwaderer (R)

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Sen. Jonathan Windy Boy, Presiding Officer (D)

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Assigned Studies

The State-Tribal Relations Committee will receive reports related to the Montana Indian Language Preservation Pilot Program (Chapter 410, Laws of 2013) at each meeting and provide a report on the program to the 64th Legislature.

Staff

Casey Barrs, Research Analyst

Laura Sankey, Attorney

Dawn Field, Legislative Secretary

Water Policy

<http://leg.mt.gov/water> or

<http://leg.mt.gov/css/committees/interim/2013-2014/water-policy/default.asp>

Statutory Citation: Section 5-5-231, MCA

The Water Policy Interim Committee (WPIC) is a joint bipartisan committee of the Legislature created by the passage of Senate Bill No. 22 (Chapter 285, Laws of 2009). The Legislature authorized the new committee to study water quality and quantity issues. The WPIC coordinates with the Environmental Quality Council on water policy issues.

Other Statutory Responsibilities

Section 85-1-501, MCA	Requires the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC) to assess dams owned or controlled by the Department for hydroelectric potential and report the results to the WPIC and the Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee before September 1 of even-numbered years.
Section 85-2-427, MCA	The DNRC must provide an annual report to WPIC on temporarily leased water rights, including the number of leases, the amount of water leased, and the number of irrigated acres taken out of production.

Membership

The WPIC is subject to the provisions of section 5-5-211, MCA, and the Committee members appointed may be selected from the following standing committees: Senate Natural Resources, House Natural Resources, Senate Agriculture, Livestock, and Irrigation, House Agriculture, Senate Local Government, and House Local Government. In addition, section 5-5-231, MCA, states that at least two members of the Committee must possess experience in agriculture.

MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

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Sen. Chas Vincent, Presiding Officer (R)

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Assigned Studies

House Joint Resolution Study water ditch/canal easement restatement process options.
No. 26

Staff

Jason Mohr, Research Analyst

Helen Thigpen, Attorney

Nadine Spencer, Legislative Secretary

PRIMARY ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEES

STATUTORY INTERIM AND OTHER COMMITTEES WITH LEGISLATIVE STAFF SUPPORT

ADDITIONAL COMMITTEES ON WHICH LEGISLATORS SERVE

INTERSTATE ORGANIZATIONS

Board of Directors of the State Compensation Insurance Fund

<http://montanastatefund.com>

Statutory Citation: Sections 2-15-1019 and 39-71-2313, MCA

The State Compensation Insurance Fund (State Fund) is a nonprofit, independent public corporation established for the purpose of allowing an option for employers to insure their liability for workers' compensation and occupational disease coverage. The Board of Directors of the State Fund helps ensure that the fund remains financially solvent.

Membership

The Board consists of seven members appointed by the Governor. In addition, the Executive Director of the State Fund is an ex officio nonvoting member. Of the seven members:

- at least four members must represent State Fund policyholders;
- at least four members must represent private enterprises;
- one of the members may be a licensed insurance producer; and
- one of the members must be a person with executive management experience in an insurance company or executive level experience in insurance financial accounting.

The Presiding Officer of the Economic Affairs Interim Committee appoints two members from the Committee, one from the majority party and one from the minority party, to serve as liaisons to the Board. Legislative liaisons serve from appointment through each even-numbered calendar year and may attend Board meetings and receive Board meeting agendas and information.

Legislative Liaisons

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Capitol Complex Advisory Council

<http://ccac.mt.gov>

Statutory Citation: Title 2, chapter 17, part 8, MCA

The Capitol Complex Advisory Council reviews proposals for long-term placement of art or displays or the naming of state buildings, spaces, or rooms in the Capitol complex and advises the Legislature on the long-term placement of statues, busts, memorials, monuments, or art displays within the Capitol complex and the Department of Administration (DOA) on interior decoration of the Capitol and on grounds maintenance and grounds displays.

By September 15 of even-numbered years, the Council must report to the State Administration and Veterans' Affairs Interim Committee on requests that it has reviewed for naming buildings, spaces, or rooms and for long-term placement of items in the Capitol or on the Capitol complex grounds.

Membership

The Council consists of nine members, including two members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker, two members of the Senate appointed by the Committee on Committees, two public members appointed by the Governor, and the Director or the Director's designee of each of the following agencies—the Montana Historical Society, the Montana Arts Council, and the DOA.

The DOA provides staff services to the Council.

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

Legislative Members

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Assigned Duties

Section 1, Chapter 279,
Laws of 2011

Charges the Advisory Council with forming a subcommittee to create and place a mural in the Capitol that honors the historical contributions of women as community builders.

Staff

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Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Advisory Committee

http://deq.mt.gov/wqinfo/srf/DWSRF/dwsrf_advisorycommittee.mcp

Statutory Citation: Section 75-6-231, MCA

As provided in section 75-6-203, MCA, the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Program allows the state to provide financial assistance to community water systems and nonprofit noncommunity water systems. The program is administered by both the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), which manages the technical components of the program, and the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC), which implements the loan program and issues the bonds that are used for the state match to the federal grant.

The revolving fund is a separate account in the state treasury from which loans can be made, debt obligations and insurance can be purchased, and other assistance can be provided to improve water systems.

Each year the DEQ must prepare an intended use plan for the fund, which must include descriptions of the projects that program funds will assist and the amount and type of funds to be allocated. This plan is subject to public comment and review by the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Advisory Committee.

Membership

The Committee has six members, including two members from the Legislature and a member from each of the following entities: the Montana League of Cities and Towns, the Montana Association of Counties, the DNRC, and the DEQ. The legislative members must be chosen from both houses and from the majority party and the minority party.

MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

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Economic Development Advisory Council

<http://businessresources.mt.gov/EDAC>

Statutory Citation: Section 2-15-1820, MCA

The Economic Development Advisory Council provides direction and oversight to the Governor and the Department of Commerce (DOC). Specifically, the Council:

- advises the DOC concerning the distribution of funds to certified regional development corporations for business development purposes;
- advises the DOC regarding the creation, operation, and maintenance of the Microbusiness Finance Program and the policies and operations affecting the certified microbusiness development corporations;
- advises the Governor and the DOC on significant matters concerning economic development in Montana;
- prescribes allowable administrative expenses for which economic development funds may be used by certified regional development corporations; and
- encourages certified regional development corporations to promote economic development on Indian reservations in their regions.

Membership

The Council is composed of up to 19 members. Fifteen of the members are appointed by the Governor and include the Director of the DOC, the Governor's Chief Business Development Officer who serves as Presiding Officer of the Council, one member from a Montana tribal government who represents a tribal economic development organization, and up to 12 public members representing each geographic region covered by each of the regional development corporations certified by the DOC. In addition, two representatives, including one from each party, are appointed by the Speaker of the House. Two senators, including one from each party, are appointed by the Committee on Committees.

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Electronic Government Advisory Council

<http://itsd.mt.gov/policy/councils/egov>

Statutory Citation: Section 2-17-1105, MCA.

The charge of the Electronic Government Advisory Council is to advise the Department of Administration (DOA) on the creation, management, and administration of electronic government services and information on the Internet.

Membership

The Council consists of the following members:

- the Director of the DOA, who serves as Presiding Officer;
- the Secretary of State or the Secretary of State's designee;
- the Attorney General or the Attorney General's designee;
- the Director of the Department of Commerce or the Director's designee;
- the Director of the Department of Revenue or the Director's designee;
- the State Librarian or the State Librarian's designee;
- a member of the House of Representatives, appointed by the Speaker of the House;
- a member of the Senate, appointed by the President of the Senate;
- an elected local government official, appointed by the Governor;
- two representatives from state agencies that are not represented on the Council, appointed by the Governor;
- two members of the public, appointed by the Governor; and
- the administrator of the Information Technology Services Division of the DOA.

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Future Fisheries Review Panel

Statutory Citation: Section 87-1-273, MCA

The Future Fisheries Review Panel is responsible for assisting the Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks in reviewing projects submitted by public or private entities for funding and determining which projects are appropriate for inclusion in the Future Fisheries Improvement Program.

Membership

The Speaker of the House and the Senate Committee on Committees each choose a legislative member to serve on the panel. Eleven other members, representing the interests listed below, are appointed by the Governor or the Governor's designee. The Panel is required to meet at least once every 6 months.

The Future Fisheries Review Panel must consist of at least 13 members, including but not limited to:

- two legislators;
- a representative of conservation districts;
- a representative with expertise in commercial agriculture;
- a representative with expertise in irrigated agriculture;
- a private fisheries restoration professional;
- two members who are licensed Montana anglers;
- a representative with expertise in silviculture;
- a Montana high school student;
- a representative with expertise in mining reclamation techniques;
- a representative with expertise in fisheries; and
- one ex officio member from the Department of Transportation who has experience in highway impacts mitigation.

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Gaming Advisory Council

<http://doj.mt.gov/gaming/advisorycouncil.asp>

Statutory Citation: Section 2-15-2021, MCA

The Gaming Advisory Council advises the Department of Justice (DOJ) and other state agencies on public policy matters related to gaming, including changes to gaming statutes, the need for additional or modified Department rules, clarification of existing rules, and the operation of the Gambling Control Division. The Council submits a report to the DOJ that is included as part of the Gambling Control Division Biennial Report prepared for the Legislature.

Membership

The Speaker of the House and the Senate Committee on Committees each select a legislative member to serve on the Council. The remaining members are appointed by the Attorney General, with one representing the public, two representing local government, three representing the gaming industry, and one who is a Native American.

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Greater Sage-Grouse Habitat Conservation Advisory Council

<http://fwp.mt.gov/doingBusiness/committees/sageGrouseHabitatConservation.html>

Citation: Governor's Executive Order No. 2-2013

The Montana Governor's Office established the Greater Sage-Grouse Habitat Conservation Advisory Council in February 2013 to develop measures to conserve Montana's sage grouse populations and habitat. The state developed the Council in part because of an invitation by the U.S. Department of the Interior to western states impacted by the potential listing of the greater sage grouse under the federal Endangered Species Act to develop state-specific measures to conserve the species and preclude the need for listing.

Membership

The Council is composed of 8 to 12 members appointed by the Governor's Office. Members must represent various geographic regions and organizations within the species' range and be from the following categories:

- agriculture and ranching community;
- conservationists and sports men and women;
- energy, mining, and power transmission interests;
- tribal governments;
- local governments; and
- the Legislature.

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Information Technology Board

<http://itsd.mt.gov/policy/councils/itb>

Statutory Citation: Section 2-15-1021, MCA

The Information Technology Board provides a forum to guide state agencies, the Legislative Branch, the Judicial Branch, and local governments in the development and deployment of intergovernmental information technology resources. The board also advises the Department of Administration (DOA) on statewide information technology standards and policies, the state strategic information technology plan, major information technology budget requests, and rates and other charges for services established by the DOA.

Other Statutory Responsibilities

Section 2-6-503, MCA	Requires the Chief Information Officer of the DOA to inform the Information Technology Board, the Office of Budget and Program Planning, and the Legislative Finance Committee of extensions granted to state agencies to comply with procedures developed to protect the use of social security numbers necessary for the performance of the agencies' duties.
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Membership

The board consists of 19 members that include:

- the Director of the DOA, who serves as presiding officer of the Board;
- the chief information officer provided for in section 2-17-511, MCA;
- the Director of the Governor's Office of Budget and Program Planning;
- six members who are directors of state agencies and who are appointed by the Governor;
- two members representing local government, appointed by the Governor;
- one member representing the Public Service Commission (PSC), appointed by the PSC;
- one member representing the private sector, appointed by the Governor;
- one member of the House of Representatives, appointed by the Speaker of the House;

- one member of the Senate, appointed by the President of the Senate;
- one member representing the Legislative Branch, appointed by the Information Technology Planning Council;
- one member representing the Judicial Branch, appointed by the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court;
- one member representing the Montana University System, appointed by the Board of Regents; and
- one member representing K-12 education, appointed by the Superintendent of Public Instruction.

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Land Information Advisory Council

http://about.montanastatelibrary.org/commission_councils/mliac/

Statutory Citation: Title 90, chapter 1, part 4, MCA

The Montana Land Information Act requires the state to compile a digital record of land characteristics in Montana and to make the information available to the public. The Act is administered by the Montana State Library with advice from the Land Information Advisory Council. Specifically, the Act provides the authority for a Land Information Account and for distribution of account funds. The library must develop a Land Information Plan that establishes a budget and sets the priorities for information gathering and dissemination.

Membership

The 22-member Council is composed of:

- the State Librarian or the State Librarian's designee;
- the chief information officer provided for in 2-17-506, MCA, or the chief information officer's designee;
- the four directors of departments established in Title 2, chapter 15, or a person to act in a director's absence;
- three persons who represent county or municipal government, at least one of whom is active in land information systems;
- two persons who are employed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture;
- two persons who are employed by the U.S. Department of the Interior;
- two persons who are active in land information systems and represent public utilities or private businesses;
- one person who represents Indian tribal interests;
- one person who represents the Montana University System;
- two persons who are members of a Montana association of GIS professionals;
- one person who represents the interests of a Montana association of registered land surveyors;
- one member of the Montana State Senate; and
- one member of the Montana House of Representatives.

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Montana Board of Investments

<http://investmentmt.com/>

Statutory Citation: Section 2-15-1808, MCA

The Board of Investments is a quasi-judicial board administratively attached to the Department of Commerce. The Board has the authority to invest all state funds. Funds must be invested under the prudent expert principle as described in section 17-6-201, MCA.

Membership

The Board is composed of nine members appointed by the Governor and two ex officio nonvoting legislative members who act as liaisons to the Board. The Board is composed of one member from the Public Employees' Retirement Board, one member from the Teachers' Retirement Board, and seven members who represent the financial community, small business, agriculture, and labor.

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Rail Service Competition Council

<http://www.mdt.mt.gov/business/rscc/>

Statutory Citation: Section 2-15-2511, MCA

The Rail Service Competition Council works to promote rail service competition in the state, develop related plans, evaluate taxing practices, assess organizational structures to help facilitate development of rail services, coordinate with railroads, and promote expansion and construction of rail services.

Membership

The Council consists of the following members:

- the Director of the Department of Agriculture;
- the Director of the Department of Transportation;
- the Director of the Department of Revenue;
- the Chief Business Development Officer of the Office of Economic Development;
- seven people appointed by the Governor with the following qualifications:
 - ▶ one person with substantial knowledge and experience related to Class I railroads;
 - ▶ one person with substantial knowledge and experience related to Class II railroads;
 - ▶ one person who is a farm commodity producer in the state and who has substantial knowledge and experience related to transportation of farm commodities;
 - ▶ one person with substantial knowledge and experience in the trucking industry in the state;
 - ▶ one person with substantial knowledge and experience related to transportation for the mineral industry in the state;
 - ▶ one person with substantial knowledge and experience related to transportation for the coal industry in the state;
 - ▶ one person with substantial knowledge and experience related to transportation for the wood products industry in the state; and
- two members from the Economic Affairs Interim Committee, one from the majority party and one from the minority party and one from each house of

the Legislature, selected by the presiding officer of the committee with the concurrence of the vice presiding officer.

The 13-member council is organized into 6 subcommittees and meets on a regular basis.

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

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Reserved Water Rights Compact Commission

<http://dnrc.mt.gov/rwrcc/default.asp>

Statutory Citation: Section 2-15-212, MCA

The Reserved Water Rights Compact Commission negotiates, on behalf of the Governor of the State of Montana, federal reserved water rights with the federal government and Montana's Indian tribes as part of the statewide water adjudication process.

The Speaker of the House and the President of the Senate each select two members from their respective bodies who join five other members appointed by the Governor and the Attorney General.

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Upland Game Bird Citizens' Advisory Council

<http://fwp.mt.gov/fishAndWildlife/habitat/wildlife/programs/uplandgamebird/advisoryCouncil/default.html>

Statutory Citation: Section 87-1-251, MCA

The Upland Game Bird Citizens' Advisory Council is a 12-member council appointed by the Director of the Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks to advise the Department on a 10-year strategic plan for the Upland Game Bird Enhancement Program and monitor and report on program activities.

Membership

The 12 members of the Council must include a public member representing each of the Department's administrative regions and include an upland game bird hunter; a local chamber of commerce representative; a conservationist; an upland game bird biologist; at least two landowners, one of whom must be enrolled in the block management program; and a senator and a representative from different political parties.

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Workforce Investment Board

<http://swib.mt.gov>

Federal Law Citation: 29 U.S.C. 2821

Statutory Citation: Section 53-2-1203, MCA

The purpose of the federal Workforce Investment Act of 1998, as stated in 29 U.S.C. 2811, is to "provide workforce investment activities . . . that increase the employment, retention, and earnings of participants, and increase occupational skill attainment by participants, and, as a result, improve the quality of the workforce, reduce welfare dependency, and enhance the productivity and competitiveness of the Nation". The Act further states that the "Governor of a State shall establish a State workforce investment board to assist in the development of the State plan" and to carry out other functions.

The State Workforce Investment Board serves in an advisory capacity to the Governor on workforce investment issues and provides broad oversight to Montana's two local Workforce Investment Boards. The State Board conducts much of its work through committees and has established the following committees for the 2013-14 interim: Executive Committee, Lifelong Learning Committee, Workforce Investment Act Committee, and the Youth Council. The Board is staffed by the Commissioner's Office of the Department of Labor and Industry.

Membership

The Board must include:

- the Governor or the Governor's designee;
- two members of the House of Representatives, one from the majority party and one from the minority party, and two members of the Senate, one from the majority party and one from the minority party, appointed by the presiding officer of each respective chamber; and
- individuals appointed by the Governor, including:
 - ▶ representatives of businesses located in Montana who are owners of businesses, chief executive or operating officers, and other business executives or employers with optimum policymaking or hiring authority, including business members of local boards, and who represent

businesses with employment opportunities that reflect the employment opportunities in Montana;

- ▶ chief elected officials of local governments;
- ▶ representatives of labor organizations;
- ▶ representatives of individuals and organizations who have experience with respect to youth activities;
- ▶ representatives of individuals and organizations who have experience and expertise in the delivery of workforce investment activities;
- ▶ representatives of the state agencies who are responsible for the programs and activities that are carried out by the one-stop centers, including but not limited to the Department of Labor and Industry, the Department of Public Health and Human Services, the Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education, and the Office of Public Instruction;
- ▶ at least one representative of military veterans; and
- ▶ other representatives whom the Governor may designate.

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PRIMARY ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEES

STATUTORY INTERIM AND OTHER COMMITTEES WITH LEGISLATIVE STAFF SUPPORT

ADDITIONAL COMMITTEES ON WHICH LEGISLATORS SERVE

INTERSTATE ORGANIZATIONS

Council of State Governments

<http://csgwest.org>

Statutory Citation: Title 5, chapter 11, part 3, MCA

Montana is one of 13 states participating in the Council of State Governments-*West* (CSG-*WEST*). CSG-*WEST* provides a "nonpartisan platform for regional cooperation and collaboration among the legislatures of the thirteen western states by creating opportunities for legislators and staff to share ideas and experience with their colleagues".² The fundamental work of the CSG is accomplished through policy study committees with legislative representatives from each of the participating states.

Section 5-11-304, MCA, authorizes the Legislative Council to facilitate Montana's participation in "appropriate interstate, international, and intergovernmental entities". The Legislative Council has appointed legislators to 2-year terms as members of the following *CSG-WEST* committees.

Membership

Committee	Senate Members		House Members	
Agriculture and Rural Affairs	Hamlett Jergeson	Taylor	Blyton	Clark
Canada Relations	Driscoll	Windy Boy	Cuffe	McCarthy
Economic Development and Trade	Buttrey Facey	Keane Tutvedt	Hagan Jacobson McCarthy	McNiven Moore
Education	Facey Hamlett Malek	Moore Windy Boy	Hansen McClafferty	Schwaderer Wilmer
Energy and Public Lands	Driscoll Jent Jergeson	Keane Larsen	Kary Steenberg Welborn	White Wilmer

² <http://www.csgwest.org>

Committee	Senate Members		House Members	
Fiscal Affairs	Facey Jergeson	Sesso Taylor	Dudik Ehli	Hollenbaugh Osmundson
Health	Facey	Windy Boy	Bangerter Hagstrom	Hunter Noonan
Higher Education Task Force	Facey	Jent	Bangerter Coffin	Gibson Woods
Legislative Council on River Governance	Fielder	Vuckovich	Lieser	Redfield
Western Water and Environment	Brenden Facey Fielder Hamlett	Jent Keane Van Dyk	Fiscus Fitzpatrick Whiford	White Williams

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Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children

<http://mic3.net>

Statutory Citation: Sections 20-1-230 and 20-1-231, MCA

In 2013, with the passage of Chapter 321, Laws of 2013, Montana became the 46th state to join the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children. The goal of the Compact is to resolve education transition issues for and ensure uniform treatment of military children transferring between school districts and states due to the reassignment of parents in the military.

Membership

Under the Compact, each state is required to create a state council or use an existing body or board to provide for coordination among the involved agencies. The council must include the state Superintendent of Public Instruction, a superintendent of a school district with a high concentration of military children, a representative from a military installation, one representative each from the legislative and executive branches of state government, and other offices and stakeholders.

Interstate Insurance Product Regulation Commission

<http://www.insurancecompact.org/>

Statutory Citation: Sections, MCA

In 2013, with the passage of Chapter 360, Laws of 2013, Montana became the 43rd state to join the Interstate Insurance Product Regulation Compact. The purpose of the Compact is to promote and protect the interest of consumers, develop uniform standards for insurance products covered under the compact, establish a central clearinghouse for insurance products, approve product filings and advertisement satisfying the applicable uniform standard, improve coordination between state insurance departments, create the Interstate Insurance Product Regulation Commission, and perform the functions consistent with the state regulation of the insurance business.

Membership

The Compact is composed of one member from each of the participating states.

National Conference of State Legislatures

<http://www.ncsl.org/>

Statutory Citation: Title 5, chapter 11, part 3, MCA

Section 5-11-305, MCA, authorizes Montana’s participation in appropriate interstate organizations. The National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL) is one of those organizations. NCSL is a bipartisan organization that serves only legislators and their staffs. NCSL provides research, technical assistance, and opportunities for policymakers to exchange ideas on state issues and is an advocate for the interests of the states in the American federal system.

Much of the NCSL's work is accomplished through its standing committees composed of legislators and legislative staff from across the country. The Legislative Council has appointed legislators to 2-year terms as members of the following NCSL committees.

Membership

Committee	Senate Members		House Members	
Budgets and Revenue	Kaufmann Keane	Sesso Thomas	Ballance Hollenbaugh	Osmundson Pomnichowski
Communications, Financial Services, and Interstate Commerce	Jergeson		McCarthy O'Neil	Schreiner Zolnikov
Education	Facey Hamlett Jergeson Jones	Malek Stewart-Peregoy Windy Boy Vuckovich	D. Jones McClafferty Salomon	Schreiner Woods
Health and Human Services	Caferro Thomas	Webb Windy Boy	Bangerter Curtis Eck Flynn	Hagstrom Hunter Pease-Lopez Wagoner
Labor and Economic Development	Buttrey Facey	Keane Vuckovich	Clark Curtis	Lang Whitford

Committee	Senate Members		House Members	
Law and Criminal Justice	Augare Caferro Driscoll	Jent Vuckovich	Court Eck Gibson Gursky Hill	Lavin Lenz Laszloffy MacDonald
Legislative Effectiveness	Driscoll Jent	Tutvedt	Hansen Kary	McDonald Williams
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Pacific NorthWest Economic Region

<http://pnwer.org>

Statutory Citation: Title 5, chapter 11, part 7, MCA

The Pacific NorthWest Economic Region (PNWER) is a statutory, nonpartisan public-private partnership comprised of legislators, governments, and businesses in the Northwestern United States and Western Canada. The PNWER acts as a facilitator for working groups consisting of public and private leaders to address specific issues impacting the regional economy. Each working group produces an action plan based on regional input. The Legislative Council is authorized under section 5-11-305, MCA, to make Montana's appointments to the PNWER.

Working groups may be established to address specific topics. The current working groups include: Agriculture, Arctic Caucus, Cross Border Livestock Health, Border Issues, Security and Disaster Resilience, Energy Transmission, Renewable Energy, Environment, Health Care, Innovation, Invasive Species, Sustainable Development, Telecom, Trade and Economic Development, Transportation, Tourism, Water Policy, and Workforce Development.

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