

1 citizens of the state of Montana, including but not limited to:

2 (i) health care;

3 (ii) human services;

4 (iii) elementary and secondary education;

5 (iv) higher education;

6 (v) pensions;

7 (vi) public safety and corrections;

8 (vii) infrastructure and public works;

9 (viii) programs historically funded by revenue generated from natural resource taxes;

10 (ix) information technology systems of the state and local government.

11 (b) invite, and at the committee's discretion, accept invitations to work with interim committees on
12 various data and analytic research projects;

13 (c) provide direction to the legislative fiscal division on the direction and priorities of data work of
14 the division;

15 (d) create data sets and models for future analysis by the legislature; and

16 (e) take affirmative measures to use and disseminate data generated by and for the committee for
17 educating, training, and increasing the competency of the public.

18
19 **NEW SECTION. Section 2. Terms -- officers -- compensation.** (1) Appointments are for 2 years,
20 and a member of the committee shall serve until the member's term of office as a legislator ends or until a
21 successor is appointed, whichever occurs first.

22 (2) The committee shall elect one of its members as presiding officer and other officers that it
23 considers necessary.

24 (3) Members of the committee are entitled to receive compensation and expenses as provided in
25 5-2-302. Public members are entitled to receive compensation and expenses as provided in 5-2-302 and 5-5-
26 211.

27 (4) If a vacancy occurs on the committee established in [section 1] when the legislature is not in
28 session, the remaining members shall select a member of the appropriate political party as provided in 5-2-202

1 to complete the unexpired term.

2

3 **Section 3.** Section 5-5-211, MCA, is amended to read:

4 **"5-5-211. Appointment and composition of interim committees.** (1) Senate interim committee
5 members must be appointed by the committee on committees.

6 (2) House interim committee members must be appointed by the speaker of the house.

7 (3) Appointments to interim committees must be made by the time of adjournment of the legislative
8 session.

9 (4) A legislator may not serve on more than two interim committees unless no other legislator is
10 available or is willing to serve.

11 (5) (a) Subject to 5-5-234 and subsection (5)(b) of this section, the composition of each interim
12 committee must be as follows:

13 (i) four members of the house, two from the majority party and two from the minority party; and

14 (ii) four members of the senate, two from the majority party and two from the minority party.

15 (b) If the committee workload requires, the legislative council may request the appointing authority to
16 appoint one or two additional interim committee members from the majority party and the minority party.

17 (6) The membership of the interim committees must be provided for by legislative rules. The rules
18 must identify the committees from which members are selected, and the appointing authority shall attempt to
19 select not less than 50% of the members from the standing committees that consider issues within the
20 jurisdiction of the interim committee and at least one member from the joint subcommittee that considers the
21 related agency budgets. In making the appointments, the appointing authority shall take into account term limits
22 of members so that committee members will be available to follow through on committee activities and
23 recommendations in the next legislative session.

24 (7) An interim committee ~~or~~ the environmental quality council, or the modernization and risk analysis
25 committee may create subcommittees. Nonlegislative members may serve on a subcommittee. Unless the
26 person is a full-time salaried officer or employee of the state or a political subdivision of the state, a
27 nonlegislative member appointed to a subcommittee or to the modernization and risk analysis committee is
28 entitled to salary and expenses to the same extent as a legislative member. If the appointee is a full-time

1 salaried officer or employee of the state or of a political subdivision of the state, the appointee is entitled to
2 reimbursement for travel expenses as provided for in 2-18-501 through 2-18-503."

3

4 **Section 4.** Section 5-12-101, MCA, is amended to read:

5 **"5-12-101. Title and purpose of chapter.** (1) This chapter may be cited as "The Legislative Finance
6 Act and Data Analytics".

7 (2) Because the legislature is responsible for appropriating public funds, it must provide for fiscal
8 analysis of state government to accumulate, compile, analyze, and furnish such information bearing upon the
9 financial matters of the state that is relevant to issues of policy and questions of statewide importance.

10 (3) Because the legislature is responsible for providing a comprehensive system of efficient
11 governance, policy, and appropriations for the state and its political subdivisions, including local governments
12 and schools, analysis of data across all aspects of government revenues, services, and funding is essential.

13 (4) Because the laws enacted by the legislature remain unless later changed by the legislature,
14 appropriations may impact future generations and tax and other law changes may impact the state's economy,
15 the legislature needs a data tool to evaluate the impacts of legislation on future generations. The tool should be
16 derived from reliable data sets and numeric in nature to allow the legislature to evaluate different assumptions
17 and potential changes in law twenty years into the future."

18

19 **Section 5.** Section 5-12-301, MCA, is amended to read:

20 **"5-12-301. Legislative fiscal division.** There is a legislative fiscal division. The legislative fiscal
21 analyst shall manage the legislative fiscal division to support the legislative finance committee and the
22 modernization and risk analysis committee and carry out the provisions of this chapter."

23

24 **Section 6.** Section 5-12-302, MCA, is amended to read:

25 **"5-12-302. Fiscal analyst's duties.** The legislative fiscal analyst shall:

26 (1) provide for fiscal analysis of state government and accumulate, compile, analyze, and furnish
27 information bearing upon the financial matters of the state that is relevant to issues of policy and questions of
28 statewide importance, including but not limited to investigation and study of the possibilities of effecting

- 1 economy and efficiency in state government;
- 2 (2) estimate revenue from existing and proposed taxes;
- 3 (3) analyze the executive budget and budget requests of selected state agencies and institutions,
- 4 including proposals for the construction of capital improvements;
- 5 (4) make the reports, data tools, and recommendations that the legislative fiscal analyst considers
- 6 desirable to the legislature in accordance with 5-11-210 and make reports, data tools, and recommendations as
- 7 requested by the legislative finance committee and the legislature;
- 8 (5) assist committees of the legislature and individual legislators in compiling and analyzing financial
- 9 ~~information~~data tools;
- 10 (6) assist the revenue interim committee in performing its revenue estimating duties;
- 11 [(7) assist and provide staff for the interim budget committees established in 5-12-501]; ~~and~~
- 12 (8) assist and provide staff for the modernization and risk analysis committee; and
- 13 ~~(8)(9)~~ review all reports submitted to the legislative fiscal analyst and notify the legislative finance
- 14 committee [or the appropriate interim budget committee, or both,] of any concerns the fiscal analyst identifies in
- 15 a report. (Bracketed language terminates December 31, 2025--sec. 12, Ch. 525, L. 2021.)"

18 NEW SECTION. Section 7. {standard} Repealer. Section 508, Chapter 5, Laws of 2021, is

19 repealed.

21 NEW SECTION. Section 8. Codification instruction. [Sections 1 through 2] are intended to be

22 codified as an integral part of Title 5, chapter 12, and the provisions of Title 5, chapter 12, apply to [sections 1

23 through 2].

26 NEW SECTION. Section 9. {standard} Effective date. [This act] is effective on passage and

27 approval.

28 - END -