



MODERNIZATION AND RISK ANALYSIS STUDY COMMITTEE

68th Montana Legislature

SENATE MEMBERS

SEN. JOHN ESP
SEN. CHRISTPHER POPE

HOUSE MEMBERS

REP. MARY CAFFERO
REP. JIM HAMILTON
REP. LLEW JONES
REP. BILL MERCER

COMMITTEE STAFF

AMY CARLSON, Fiscal Analyst
JULIE JOHNSON, Attorney
MARK YAKABOVICH, Secretary

PUBLIC MEMBERS

DWAINE IVERSON
HEATHER O'LOUGHLIN
LANCE FOURSTAR
KENDALL COTTON

MINUTES LOG

June 15, 2023

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Helena, Montana

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MEMBERS PRESENT:

Rep. Llew Jones (R)
Rep. Jim Hamilton (D)
Rep. Bill Mercer (R)
Sen. John Esp (R)
Sen. Christopher Pope (D)
Heather O'Loughlin, Public Member
Lance Fourstar, Public Member
Kendall Cotton, Public Member

MEMBERS EXCUSED:

Rep. Mary Caferro (D)
Dwaine Iverson, Public Member

MEMBERS ABSENT:

STAFF PRESENT:

Amy Carlson, Fiscal Analyst
Julie Johnson, Attorney
Mark Yakubovich, Secretary

AGENDA (Attachment 1)

VISITORS' LIST (Attachment 2)

COMMITTEE ACTION

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL:

10:04:05 Sen. John Esp called the meeting to order at 10:04 AM. The committee secretary took roll.

Review of MARA in the 2023 Biennium:

10:06:50 Director Amy Carlson, (LFD) gave an overview of MARA and its involvement with other legislative groups.

MARA Mission and Approach to Moving Forward:

10:29:13 Josh Poulette, Senior Fiscal Analyst, discussed slides on the 2023 biennium MARA product and MARA's role in bringing in outside experts.

11:04:05 Nick VanBrown, Lead Data Scientist, (LFD) discussed build of the baseline model and the modules, working with outside technical experts and how MARA enhanced the LFD's technical skills.

11:10:47 Ryan Evans, Assistant Budget Director, Governor's Budget Office

11:14:17 Josh Poulette, (LFD), discussed changes and updates to MARA statute regarding data analytics.

Committee Discussion on MARA in the 2023 Biennium:

11:18:17 Director Amy Carlson (LFD) explained the Legislative Finance and Data Analytics Act.

Lunch:

11:53:05 Reconvened at 1:05:31

MARA Topic Prioritization | Focus in the 2025 Biennium:

01:05:40 Director Amy Carlson, (LFD) presented potential topics for the 2025 biennium.

01:08:30 Kendall Cotton discussed his suggestion to expand the housing BI tool to include information like the Minneapolis Federal Reserve.

01:11:50 Rep. Jim Hamilton asked about housing data forecasting in relation to the Power BI Tool

01:15:37 Rep. Mary Caferro asked about state and local implementation.

01:19:17 Nick Van Brown, (LFD)

01:26:36 Director Amy Carlson, (LFD) discussed the committees desire to follow up on MSU study of locations for decarbonization infrastructure along I- West, and looking at the long-term impacts of growing population, outdoor recreation and changing federal policy on public land health, local access, and the economy.

01:34:30 Lance Fourstar discussed concerns around transition from carbon to non-carbon-based energy.

01:43:20 Director Amy Carlson (LFD) spoke about IJJA funds in relation to MARA.

01:52:29 Rep. Llew Jones

01:54:40 Kendall Cotton brought up concerns surrounding the impact of AI on private and public sector workforce.

01:56:43 Director Amy Carlson (LFD) discussed the committees desire to compare levies for various purposes across county and city governments. Evaluate tax implications of various service levels.

02:06:06 Rep. Bill Mercer discussed HB245 and its implementation of tax credit for trades. Discussed if information can be obtained from Department of Revenue for who claimed a tax credit.

- 02:07:05 Sam Schaefer, Lead Fiscal Analyst, Revenues (LFD)
- 02:09:21 Director Amy Carlson (LFD) announced topics to the committee surrounding modernization of tax system, best practices in matching sin tax revenues with impacts versus revenue deposited in the general fund and comparing current tax structures and receipts by region or industry.
- 02:13:29 Duane Johnson discussed differences between added value versus sales tax.
- 02:25:58 Nick Van Brown, (LFD)
- 02:27:11 Director Amy Carlson (LFD) presented criminal justice topics to the committee surrounding national and state perspectives on behavioral health system reform.
- 02:29:02 Rep. Llew Jones spoke about factors surrounding criminal justice reform.
- 02:32:04 Rep. Bill Mercer
- 02:36:00 Lance Fourstar gave perspective on criminal justice topics in relation to Montana's tribes and reservations.
- 02:45:18 Rep. Jim Hamilton
- 02:59:33 Director Amy Carlson (LFD) presented topics to the committee surrounding Health and Human Services data, shortcomings of IHS for reservation populations and tracking data on child protective services

- 03:02:59 Rep. Bill Mercer discussed the 2020 pandemic in relation to public health data in Montana.
- 03:05:12 Director Amy Carlson, (LFD) discussed topics relating to best practices, data analysis on school funding and education to the economy HB949.
- 03:06:15 Rep. Llew Jones
- 03:13:03 Sen. John Esp
- 03:14:30 Director Amy Carlson, (LFD) spoke about the vision for an ideal IT future in state government.
- 03:14:40 Lance Fourstar spoke about the treaty status of the Fort Peck reservation.
- 03:20:19 Rep. Llew Jones
- 03:21:38 Director Amy Carlson, (LFD) spoke about formally looking at the session budgeting process of biennial meetings.
- 03:21:30 Llew Jones
- 03:23:07 Sen. Christopher Pope
- 03:33:46 Director Amy Carlson, (LFD) discussed staff outreach to interim committees for data requests, continuing education and dashboard for pensions, data related tools for legislators.

Committee Discussion:

- 03:34:48 Rep. Jim Hamilton
- 03:42:35 Rep. Llew Jones
- 03:48:37 Director Amy Carlson, (LFD)

Recess:

- 03:05:53 Reconvened at 4:09pm

Review of MARAs Goals and Actions:

- 04:11:30 Director Amy Carlson, (LFD) discussed potential future meeting dates with the committee

ADJOURNMENT:

- 04:39:59 Chair John Esp adjourned the meeting.