



Public Safety Interim Budget Committee
68th Montana Legislature

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JULIE JOHNSON, Staff Attorney
WALKER HOPKINS, Fiscal Analyst
BRENT DOIG, OBPP Analyst
QUINN HOLZER, Assistant Director

Section D Interim Budget Committee – Agenda
September 18, 2024 – Room 152

8:00 Call to Order – Roll Call – Chair Mercer

8:05 Full Budget Review Details – Vote on Program

8:15 LFD Updates:

- Additional State Special Revenue Summaries - LFD

8:30 **Office of State Public Defender** – Director Brett Schandelson and staff

- Quarterly expenditure report - LFD

Agency discussion topics and information requests:

- Discussion on annual performance reporting for FY 2024 contained in HB 190 (Due by December, 2024)
- Related to the following:
 - What efficiency in your agency can be realized to reduce costs?
 - What positions in the agency may be antiquated and could be eliminated and replaced with technological advancements such as AI or other technology?
 - What Programs can be eliminated or consolidated that are not necessary or are no longer needed?
- Discussion regarding dependency and neglect / child representation legislation from the 2023 Session (HB 16, HB 555, SB 148)
- Regarding the responses from the department after the June meeting, provide the number of times in FY 2024 in which a court has ordered jail time for these identified misdemeanor types
- FY 2024 Q4 cases in which the office of state public defender moved for waiver of the cost of counsel pursuant to 46-8-113(1) and the basis for the motion
- Current employee and contractor time for FY 2024 in cases involving defendants in capital cases

- FY 2024 Q4 cases in which the office of state public defender was appointed to represent defendants in each county, including a separate disclosure of the number of appointments to employees of the office of public defender compared to contract attorneys
 - regarding the number of appointments reported above, the number of appointments made in each county for cases in which the offense or offenses charged allege violations of local ordinances and not state statutes
 - regarding the number of appointments reported above, the costs incurred in each county to compensate contractors

OBPP Comments – Brent Doig

Public Comment – Office of State Public Defender Topics

9:45 BREAK

10:00 **Department of Justice** – Chief of Staff Will Selph and staff

- Quarterly expenditure report - LFD

Agency discussion topics and information requests:

- Discussion on annual performance reporting for FY 2024 contained in HB 190 (Due by December, 2024)
- Related to the following:
 - What efficiency in your agency can be realized to reduce costs?
 - What positions in the agency may be antiquated and could be eliminated and replaced with technological advancements such as AI or other technology?
 - What Programs can be eliminated or consolidated that are not necessary or are no longer needed?
- Outline the responsibilities and accomplishments made by ARPA funded DCI agents provided to the Billings area to mitigate crime. Does the department plan to request permanent FTE to replace these agents when this source of funding ends?
- NRDP update regarding 2025 biennium appropriations
- Report the following case numbers for FY 2024
 - The total number of times that the Prosecution Services Bureau was asked to lead or participate in a prosecution but could not due to resource constraints
 - The total number of human trafficking investigations initiated by the Department of Justice and the number of prosecutions generated from the investigations
 - The total number of times that the Division of Criminal Investigation was asked to lead or participate in an investigation but could not due to resource constraints
 - The total number of investigations by the Division of Criminal Investigation that were referred to federal prosecutors and resulted in charges being filed in federal court (including the individual charges, location of violations)
- Discuss all instances in which the Montana Opioid Abatement Trust has made determinations regarding the allocation of funds within the trust
- MBCC - Discuss the application process regarding CIT training (MBCC)

- MBCC -Status report regarding the implementation of the SB 11 data warehouse. What additional funding is estimated for the 2027 biennium?
 - Natalia Bowser
 - Brett Schandelson

OBPP Comments – Brent Doig

Public Comment – Department of Justice Topics

11:30 **Public Service Commission** – President Brown and staff

- Quarterly expenditure report – LFD
- Discussion on annual performance reporting for FY 2024 contained in HB 190 (Due by December, 2024)
- Related to the following:
 - What efficiency in your agency can be realized to reduce costs?
 - What positions in the agency may be antiquated and could be eliminated and replaced with technological advancements such as AI or other technology?
 - What Programs can be eliminated or consolidated that are not necessary or are no longer needed?

12:00 LUNCH BREAK

1:00 **Department of Corrections** – Director Brian Gootkin and staff

- Quarterly expenditure report - LFD

Agency discussion topics and information requests:

- Detail regarding the fiscal transfers performed by the department in FY 2024
- Discussion on annual performance reporting for FY 2024 contained in HB 190 (Due by December, 2024)
- Related to the following:
 - What efficiency in your agency can be realized to reduce costs?
 - What positions in the agency may be antiquated and could be eliminated and replaced with technological advancements such as AI or other technology?
 - What Programs can be eliminated or consolidated that are not necessary or are no longer needed?
- How does the current per diem rate paid to local detention centers compare with actual costs? Is the rate sufficient in terms of covering realized costs?
- Updates on implementation of HB 426
- Regarding educational programming and opportunities for inmates, discuss with the DOC and BOPP
 - Which programs/classes are offered because they are court ordered?
 - How many inmates are currently waiting to receive court ordered programs/classes?

- How many inmates are being held past their release date because they haven't been able to get programming?
- What is the length of time that each of those inmates has been held beyond their potential release date?
- Updates related to the curation of the new OMIS system
- Provide applicable updates in the following areas:
 - Rental Voucher Expenditures for FY 2024
 - Any evaluations pursuant to 53-1-211(2)(b) of programs to reduce recidivism
 - Ongoing evaluations for programs pursuant to 53-1- 211(5)

OBPP Comments – Brent Doig

Public Comment – Department of Corrections

2:30 Break

2:45 **Judicial Branch** – Beth McLaughlin and staff

- Quarterly expenditure report - LFD

Agency discussion topics and information requests:

- Related to the following:
 - What efficiency in your agency can be realized to reduce costs?
 - What positions (i.e. court reporters) may be antiquated that could be eliminated and replaced with technological advancements such as AI or other technology?
 - What Programs can be eliminated or consolidated that are not necessary or are no longer needed?
- If the need for additional district court judges has been determined during the budget planning process, please provide the number of judges and the locations in need these judges
- Regarding the youth population, is there an increase in marijuana use among minors or just reclassifications from a felony to a MIP since the legalization of recreational marijuana?
- Within the Youth Court system, provide the scope of Medicaid match dollars utilized by the program
- Pannel discussion with district court judges regarding the issues being experienced by the court system
 - Judge Lint
 - Judge Fehr

OBPP Comments – Brent Doig

Public Comment – Judicial Branch Topics

4:00 Committee Business

4:30 Public Comment

4:45 Adjourn