



1 of Montana taxpayers;

2 (f) authorize research and studies to be conducted by reputable and reliable experts in the public or  
3 private sectors; and

4 (g) request research and analysis from the legislative fiscal division, the office of public instruction,  
5 the department of revenue, and any other state agency or entity that maintains information or data relevant to  
6 the study.

7 (3) The members of the commission are:

8 (a) the presiding officer of the house of representatives education standing committee or the  
9 presiding officer's designee;

10 (b) the presiding officer of the joint appropriations education standing subcommittee or the  
11 presiding officer's designee;

12 (c) six four additional members of the house of representatives, three one from the majority party  
13 and three from the minority party, appointed by the speaker of the house in consultation with the house majority  
14 leader and the house minority leader;

15 (d) the presiding officer of the senate education and cultural resources standing committee or the  
16 presiding officer's designee;

17 (e) the vice presiding officer of the joint appropriations education standing subcommittee, unless  
18 the vice presiding officer also serves as presiding officer of the senate education and cultural resources  
19 standing committee; in that circumstance, the vice presiding officer of the senate education and cultural  
20 resources standing committee;

21 (b)(f) six four additional members of the senate, three one from the majority party and three from the  
22 minority party, appointed by the president of the senate in consultation with the senate majority leader and the  
23 senate minority leader; ~~and~~

24 (c) ~~four members of the public to be appointed as follows:~~

25 (i) ~~two public members appointed by the speaker of the house with the consent of the house minority~~  
26 ~~leader; and~~

27 (ii) ~~two public members appointed by the president of the senate with the consent of the senate~~  
28 ~~minority leader~~

1 (g) the presiding officer of the board of public education or the presiding officer's designee;

2 (h) the superintendent of public instruction or the superintendent's designee; and

3 (i) two members of the public appointed by the governor, at least one of whom is a current or  
4 former school board trustee.

5 (4) Appointments to the commission must be made by April 1 in a year the commission is to form  
6 pursuant to subsection (1).

7 (4)(5) The presiding officer of the joint appropriations education standing subcommittee shall serve as  
8 the presiding officer of the commission. The commission shall select its vice presiding officer from its legislative  
9 members at the first meeting of the commission.

10 (5)(6) The commission is attached for administrative purposes to the legislative services division, and  
11 the legislative services division shall provide sufficient and appropriate support to the commission in order that it  
12 may carry out its statutory duties, within the limitations of legislative appropriations.

13 (6)(7) The commission is staffed by the legislative services division. The legislative fiscal analyst shall  
14 assign staff to assist the commission.

15 (7)(8) The commission shall issue a report to the legislature in accordance with 5-11-210 on the  
16 commission's findings and recommendations, including any draft legislation for amending the state school  
17 funding formula.

18 (8)(9) Unless the person is a full-time salaried officer or employee of the state or a political  
19 subdivision of the state, a nonlegislative member appointed to the commission is entitled to salary and  
20 expenses to the same extent as a legislative member. If the appointee is a full-time salaried officer or employee  
21 of the state or of a political subdivision of the state, the appointee is entitled to reimbursement for travel  
22 expenses as provided for in 2-18-501 through 2-18-503."

23  
24 NEW SECTION. Section 2. Appropriation. There is appropriated \$10,000 from the general fund to  
25 the legislative services division for funding commission activities in May and June 2025.

26  
27 NEW SECTION. Section 3. {standard} Effective date. [This act] is effective on passage and  
28 approval.

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