

LEGISLATIVE FINANCE COMMITTEE (LFC) WORK PLAN

JUNE 2021 – DECEMBER 2022

The Legislative Finance Committee workplan represents a recommendation based on discussion during the LFC retreat in June 2021.

INTERIM BUDGET COMMITTEES

1. Standard agenda
 - HB 330 Long Term Budget Efficiency Study – agencies and Office of Budget and Program Planning staff report progress to IBC
 - Quarterly report
 - Regular budget
 - Personal services
 - American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) detailed spending
 - Information Technology Projects
2. Coordination with interim policy committees
3. Specific goals by section:

Section A

- State Information Technology Services Division (SITSD) monitoring
- SITSD enterprise rates deep dive
- Information technology projects related to general government

Section B

- Comprehensive School and Community Treatment (CSCT) monitoring (school mental health Office of Public Instruction interaction)
- Medicaid model update
- Quarterly reports will integrate Medicaid monitoring
- Department of Public Health and Human Service data warehouse Montana Program for Automating and Transforming Healthcare (MPATH) use and integration of data
- Monitor interim studies:
 - SJ 14: Study mental health system Children, Families, Health and Human Services Interim Committee (CFHHS)
 - HJ 35: Study children's mental health system (CFHHS)
 - HJ 39: Study involuntary commitment of people with Alzheimer's/dementia (CFHHS)
 - SJ 35: Study DPHHS procurement practices State Administration and Veterans' Affairs Interim Committee (SAVA)

Section C

- Monitor Good Neighbor Authority
- Wolf program updates/monitoring
- Fire fund status updates

- Monitor federal coronavirus stimulus appropriations provided in CARES Act II (HB 630) and American Rescue Plan Act (HB 632) to the Department of Transportation for infrastructure projects and contractor payments
- Updates and/or interaction with Environmental Quality Council
- Monitor interim studies:
 - HJ 6: Study natural resources trust fund, Revenue Interim Committee (RIC)
 - HJ 27: Study funding of conservation districts, Environmental Quality Committee (EQC)

Section D

- Updates and/or interaction with Criminal Justice Oversight Council and/or Law and Justice Interim Committee
- COVID impacts on caseloads and backlog for Judicial Branch, Office of Public Defender & Department of Corrections
- Department of Corrections data collection
- Monitor interim studies:
 - HJ 31: Study of criminal justice system data in Montana, Law and Justice Interim Committee (LJIC)
 - HJ 40: Judicial standards commission study and audit request (LJIC)
 - HJ 34: Study pretrial and presentence diversion programs, Criminal Justice Oversight Council (CJOC)
 - HJ 29: Study of victim services and funding in Montana (LJIC)

Section E

HB 671 includes suggested studies in the following areas:

- Indian language preservation
- Montana digital academy
- Funding for K-12 enrollment increases

Section F

Specific interest is expected in the American Rescue Plan Act implementation and the current federal proposed funding for infrastructure legislation

MODERNIZATION AND RISK ASSESSMENT COMMITTEE (MARA) WORK PLAN

The committee will continue some of the work began in the 2020 interim but interrupted due to COVID. In addition, staff will prepare, compile, and analyze new data sets, and provide additional research at the direction of the committee. Please see the [website](#) for a more in-depth discussion of the MARA work plan.

OTHER LFC WORK PLAN ITEMS

Standard Reporting

Staff and the LFC will provide the following standard reports: 1) general fund outlook, June of 2022; 2) the budget analysis of the Governor's 2025 biennium budget, December 2022; 3) 2025 biennium fiscal report, June 2023; and 4) other assorted session preparation items like the 2025 base budget report, personal services, and recommended rules for session subcommittee work.

State Information Technology Services Division Policy Overview

Per MCA 12-5-205, the LFC is responsible for monitoring and making any statutory changes for information technology policies. The interim budget committees will monitor details of the SITSD policies governing each agency and agency projects. The LFC will receive brief summary reports at each quarterly meeting of the LFC and hear from the state information technology officer to comply with MCA 12-5-205.

Pension Systems

- Standard reports from the systems
- SAVA HJ 8 study - LFC members will provide quarterly updates

Track the American Rescue Plan Act

July 1 Zoom meeting will include a presentation by the Office of Budget and Program Planning on the updated federal guidance for ARPA use.

Detailed spending of ARPA and other coronavirus stimulus appropriations will be included in the quarterly financial reports presented to the Interim Budget Committees.

HB 330 Dynamic Fiscal Note Study

LFC will direct the study of the use of dynamic fiscal notes in other states and their potential use in Montana. The legislative fiscal division will survey the use of dynamic fiscal notes in other states and obtain examples. A report summarizing the results and any recommendations will be provided during the March 2022 meeting.