

HB 142 Review of Advisory Councils

Traumatic Brain Injury Advisory Council

Prepared by Sue O'Connell
May 2012

Statutory Authority: 2-15-2217, MCA

Purposes

- Advise the Department of Public Health and Human Services on ways to improve and develop services regarding traumatic brain injury, including coordination of services between public and private groups
- Encourage citizen participation through public hearings and other types of community outreach and prevention activities
- Encourage research, public awareness, education, and prevention activities
- Advise DPHHS on the use of grant funds and funds in the traumatic brain injury account, which includes revenue from a \$1 donation that can be made by individuals when they register a vehicle

General Information

Membership:

- Nine members, six of whom must be members of the public
- Governor appoints public members
- Committee makeup specified in statute to include a range of interested parties
- Public members serve 3-year terms
- Council meets four times per year

Duties and Activities:

- Discuss issues of concern to the field of traumatic brain injury
- Work with the Brain Injury Association of Montana and the prevention staff at DPHHS
- Make recommendations to DPHHS on matters involving traumatic brain injury

Budget Information

Members are paid for meals, lodging, and travel. Council expenses in fiscal year 2011 totaled about \$8,700.

Recent Activities

- Last met on Feb. 23-24, 2012
- Discussion of potential legislation in 2013 relating to sports concussions and establishing a requirement for an athlete to refrain from playing until examined by medical personnel trained in brain injuries.

Traumatic Brain Injury Advisory Council Membership

| Members | Hometown | Representing | Term Expires |
|-------------------|-----------------|--------------------------------|---------------------|
| Ian Elliott | Billings | Survivor | 1/1/2013 |
| Julia Hammond | Helena | Survivor | 1/1/2015 |
| Cindy Laukes | Missoula | Injury Control/Prevention | 1/1/2015 |
| Melveena Malatare | Browning | Advocate | 1/1/2014 |
| Kathy Smith | Great Falls | Advocate | 1/1/2014 |
| James Wright | Butte | Advocate | 1/1/2013 |
| James Driggers | Helena | DPHHS | No specified term |
| Tana Ostrowski | Missoula | Traumatic Brain Injury Program | No specified term |
| Francisco Roman | Helena | OPI | No specified term |