

Economic Affairs Interim Committee

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62nd Montana Legislature

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Aug. 31, 2012

Potential Upcoming Legislation from agencies monitored by the EAIC

Department of Labor and Industry

- UI Integrity legislation required by Public Law 112-40
- Revise unemployment insurance operations to improve efficiency
- Revise definition of total unemployment by deleting the words "two times" and replacing with "150% of"
- Provide for an exception to mandatory construction industry workers' compensation in Montana if an Extraterritorial Agreement between MT and a neighboring state provides for the exclusion
- Revise the Uninsured Employers' Fund to clarify that the UEF is not an insurer and not subject to the same provisions as insurers
- Requiring contractors and subcontractors working on state public works contracts for construction services to document a commitment to occupational safety on those contracts
- Provide for a cease and desist order for unregistered construction contractors and strengthening the interest and lien penalty provisions for CR and IC
- Clarify the wage and payment act regarding the period in which an employee may recover wages
- Provide for enforcement of unlicensed practice for the Board of Plumbing, the Electrical Board, and Realty Regulation
- Generally revise funeral board statutes
- Combined Business Standards Division bill to address reorganization and other minor matters
- Revise Apprenticeship and Training statutes to comply with federal regulations

Department of Livestock

• A bill to allow for a grace period on rerecording of brands. February 2010 audit finding.

State Auditor's Office (no official list was available prior to sending the packet. The bill mentioned below has been reviewed and suggested by an advisory council.)

• A bill establishing a Patient-Centered Medical Home Commission, with oversight by the State Auditor.

Department of Agriculture

• Rename "agriculture in Montana schools" to the "Montana agriculture literacy program (15-30-2388 and 15-30-2389)

Department of Commerce

- Revise the Big Sky Trust Fund wage rates similar to the way that the Primary Sector Workforce Training wage rates were changed to the average county wage or 170% of the Montana current minimum wage, whichever is lower.
- Revise the Primary Sector Workforce Training Program to clean up inconsistencies.