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Law and Justice Interim Committee

68th Montana Legislature

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TENTATIVE AGENDA

(updated 2/15/24)

Law & Justice Interim Committee

February 20-21, 2024
State Capitol Building, Room 137

Agenda times are approximate.

Tuesday, February 20, 2024

- 9:00 a.m.** **Call to Order – Roll Call – Rep. Amy Regier, Chair**
- 9:05 a.m.** **Meeting overview/ administrative matters – Rachel Weiss, Research Director**
- Review agenda
 - Questions from Committee
- 9:10 a.m.** **Problem-solving Courts (Tab 2)**
- Overview – *Beth McLaughlin, Office of the Court Administrator, and Judge Mary J. Knisely, 13th Judicial District Court*
 - Public Comment*
 - Questions from Committee
 - Discussion and Next steps
- 10:10 a.m.** **Agency Updates - Department of Corrections (Tab 3)**
- Updates on workforce housing and temporary prison beds
 - *Cynthia Wolken, Deputy Director, and executive staff*
 - *Dan Villa, Director, Board of Investments*
 - Public Comment*
 - Questions from Committee
- 10:45 a.m.** **BREAK**

- 11:00 a.m. Montana Jails and Peer Review Programs (Tab 4)**
- *Jason Kowalski, MACo Peer Review Coordinator*
 - *Sam Bofto, Undersheriff, Yellowstone County Sheriffs Office*
 - *Jenny Root, Jail Commander, Flathead County Sheriffs Office*
 - Questions from Committee
 - Public Comment*
 - Discussion and Next Steps
- 12:00 p.m. Lunch**
- 1:00 p.m. SJ 31: Study of Attorney Regulation and the State Bar (Tab 5)**
- Alternative pathways to bar admission
 - *Martin Pritikin, Dean of Purdue Global Law School*
 - *Elaine M. Gagliardi, Dean of the University of Montana School of Law*
 - *Steven Bahls, Council Member, Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar of the American Bar Association*
 - Public Comment*
 - Questions from the Committee
- 2:00 p.m. Civil and Forensic Commitments (HB 872 Commission request) (Tab 6)**
- Work group presentation – *Julianne Burkhardt, Staff Attorney*
 - *Judge Amy Eddy, 11th Judicial District (Flathead County)*
 - *Chad Parker, DPHHS, Deputy Chief Legal Counsel*
 - *Laura Kirsch, Ph.D, board-certified forensic psychologist*
 - *Brian Smith, Public Defender Division Administrator, Office of State Public Defender*
 - *Brett Irigoien, Dawson County Attorney*
 - Public Comment*
 - Questions from the Committee
- 4:00 p.m. BREAK**
- 4:15 p.m. Facial Recognition Technology (Tab 7)**
- FRT use by law enforcement
 - *Bryan Gortmaker, Supervisor, MATIC*
 - FRT use in Montana schools
 - *Rob Stutz, Chief Legal Counsel, Office of Public Instruction or designee*
 - *Kris Goss, Director of Policy Services/Senior Counsel, Montana School Board Association*
 - Overview of other states' privacy legislation – *Laura Sherley, Research Assistant*
 - Public comment*
 - Questions from Committee

- Discussion and Next Steps
- 5:15 p.m. Recess

Wednesday, February 21, 2024

8:00 – 11:00 a.m. **Committee Field Trip to the Montana Law Enforcement Academy (MLEA)**

12:30 p.m. **Reconvene in Room 137**
Discussion and Public Comment* on Committee Field Trip to MLEA

12:40 p.m. **Behavioral Health Facilities in Rapid City, SD**

- Report on MT site visit – *Senator Barry Usher and Amber Widgery, NCSL, Criminal and Civil Justice Program*
- Public Comment*
- Questions from the Committee

1:15 p.m. **Discussion re: HB 423 (Compensation for wrongfully convicted) (Tab 8)**

- Review of legislation and discussion of pay structure – *Julianne Burkhardt and Rachel Weiss*
- Public Comment*
- Committee discussion

1:45 p.m. **Discussion re: SB 95 (Revising sentencing laws for theft) (Tab 9)**

- Review of legislation – *Julianne Burkhardt and Senator Barry Usher*
- Public Comment*
- Committee discussion

2:15 p.m. **Administrative Rule Review** – Julianne Burkhardt, Staff Attorney

- Public Comment*
- Questions from Committee

2:30 p.m. **Public Comment*** on any item in LJIC’s subject matter jurisdiction (Tab 10)

2:45 p.m. **Committee Work Session**

- Staff review of meeting chart and next steps– Rachel Weiss, Research Analyst
- Other directions to staff?
- **Next meeting date:** Tues.-Wed., May 14-15 -- Helena

LJIC MATERIALS AND COMMUNICATIONS

LJIC materials, including agendas, minutes, and public comment, are public record. To download current and past meeting materials, view a list of committee members, and sign up for meeting notices and other communications, please go to the website:

<https://leg.mt.gov/committees/interim/ljic/>

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Registration deadline for virtual public comment is Feb. 19th @ 5 PM

The public may attend the meeting and offer public comment in the Capitol or provide public comment either remotely via Zoom or in writing.

In person: A podium with microphone is available for your public comment. You are welcome to leave written comment for the committee instead of or in addition to your spoken comment. (See “In writing,” next page.)

Virtually: Please submit the online form for remote participation:

<https://leg.mt.gov/committees/interim/ljic/meeting-info/remote-participation-ljic/>

You will receive an email with the login information by 11:59 p.m. the night before the meeting.

In writing: You may submit written comments either through the [online form](#) or by mailing the comments to Law & Justice Interim Committee, PO Box 201706, Helena, MT 59620. Comments provided by 5 p.m. the day before the meeting will be given to the LJIC at the meeting. Comments provided after that time will be given to the LJIC at the next meeting.

* Public comment provided in person or remotely at a committee meeting is a public record that is recorded, archived, and available on the Internet. Public comment submitted in writing at a committee meeting is a public record that will be posted to the legislative Web site as part of the minutes log for the committee meeting.

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