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Economic Affairs Interim Committee

69th Montana Legislature

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AGENDA

Jan 20, 2026
9:00 a.m. – 6:30 p.m.
Capitol, Room 137 and Zoom
Note: *All times are tentative*

9:00 a.m. **Call to Order: Roll Call**
Representative Ler, Chair

9:05 a.m. **Administrative Rule Review**
Jameson Walker, Staff Attorney

9:30 a.m. **Agency Oversight: Department of Agriculture**
Representative Ler, Chair
a. *Jillien Streit - Director*: Department Update
b. Public Comment

10:00 a.m. **SHORT BREAK**

10:10 a.m. **HJ 61 – Property Insurance in Montana**
Matthew Weaver, Research Analyst
Panelist Presentations
a. *Lyn Elliot - American Property Casualty Insurance Association (APCIA)*
b. *Brandon Vick - National Association of Mutual Insurance Companies (NAMIC)*
c. *Michael DeLong - Consumer Federation of America (CFA)*
d. *Kristin Page-Nei - AARP Montana*
e. *Kimiko Barrett - Headwaters Economics*

11:00 a.m. **SHORT BREAK**

11:10 a.m. **HJ 61 – Property Insurance in Montana (continued)**
Matthew Weaver, Research Analyst
a. Public Comment
b. Legislator Question and Answer

12:00 p.m. **LUNCH**

MONTANA LEGISLATIVE SERVICES DIVISION STAFF: JERRY HOWE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR • RACHEL WEISS, DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF RESEARCH AND POLICY ANALYSIS • JASON MOHR, ENVIRONMENTAL ANALYST, LEGISLATIVE ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY OFFICE • TODD EVERTS, DIRECTOR, LEGAL SERVICES OFFICE • DALE GOW, CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER, OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE INFORMATION SERVICES • ANGIE CARTER, FINANCIAL MANAGER • KELLY DASILVA, HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGER

1:00 p.m. **HJ 27 – Morticians and Funeral Services**
Matthew Weaver, Research Analyst
a. Staff Background Paper
b. Panelist Presentations
1. *Brad Longcake - Montana Funeral Directors Association (MFDA)*
2. *Rick Walter - Montana Board of Funeral Service*
3. *Erin Sullivan - Department of Labor and Industry*
c. Public Comment
d. Legislator Question and Answer

2:00 p.m. **SHORT BREAK**

2:10 p.m. **SJ 11 – Farmers Markets: Definition Change, 50-50-102(8) MCA**
Matthew Weaver, Research Analyst
a. Panelist Introductions
1. *Maura Henn - Grow Montana*
2. *Sadie Overlie - Department of Public Health and Humans Services*
b. Public Comment
c. Legislator Question and Answer

2:40 p.m. **SHORT BREAK**

2:50 p.m. **SJ 33 - Rx Drug Supply Chain Study: Example Legislation**
Matthew Weaver, Research Analyst
a. Example Legislation Overview
1. Price and Sales Transparency
2. Specialty Pharmaceuticals - Brown/White Bagging
3. Copay Adjustment Programs
4. Misc - Drug Disposal Programs and Fiduciary Responsibility
b. Public Comment
c. Committee Work Session

4:00 p.m. **SHORT BREAK**

4:10 p.m. **Member Topic - Intoxicating Substances: Kratom, Hemp, Alternative Beverages**
Matthew Weaver, Research Analyst
a. Revisions to Federal Definition of Hemp and impact on Montana Code Annotated
1. *Ian Foley - Agricultural Sciences Division Administrator, Dept of Agriculture*
2. *Kristan Barbour - Administrator, Cannabis and Alcohol Regulation Division (CARD)*
b. Kratom discussion: HB 407 (2025)
c. Public Comment

5:10 p.m. **SHORT BREAK**

5:20 p.m. **Emerging Issues: Auto-Insurance Right to Appraisal progress report**
Representative Ler, Chair

5:35 p.m. **Public Comment*** on any topic under the Committee's jurisdiction but not on this agenda

5:50 p.m. **Work Session: Committee Discussion and Meeting Wrap Up**
Representative Ler, Chair
a. Staff Review of Legislative Oversight of Gambling
b. Instructions to Staff
c. Next Meeting

6:30 p.m. **Adjourn**

Public Participation

The public may attend the meeting and offer public comment in the Capitol or provide public comment either using remote meeting technology or in writing.

To offer public comment via remote meeting technology, please submit the online form for remote participation at least 2 hours before the scheduled start of the meeting: https://participate.legmt.gov/.

Written public comment may be submitted either through the online form for written comment or by mailing the comments to Economic Affairs Interim Committee, PO Box 201706, Helena, MT 59620.

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

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