



Law and Justice Interim Committee

69th Montana Legislature

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AGENDA

March 5-6, 2026

State Capitol, Room 154 and Zoom

PLEASE NOTE:

- All times are approximate; some agenda items may take more or less time than allotted.
- The agenda may be adjusted or paused for breaks at the discretion of the presiding officer.
- See page 3 of this agenda for information on accessibility and public participation.

March 5, 2026

- 8:30 a.m. **Call to Order and Roll Call**
Chair Regier
- 8:35 a.m. **Criminal Justice Data Warehouse:** Implementation update
Kayla Bragg, Executive Director, Montana Board of Crime Control
Janice Fries, Statistical Analysis Center Director, Montana Board of Crime Control
Adam Carpenter, Chief Data Officer, Department of Administration
- Public comment* on the topic
 - Questions from the committee
- 9:00 a.m. **Buffer Zone Law:** Input from Montana stakeholders
Col. Kurt Sager, Montana Highway Patrol
Sheriff/Corner Leo Dutton, Lewis & Clark County, MT Sheriffs & Peace Officers Assoc.
Dan Smith, Executive Director, Montana Police Protective Association
Chief Brett Petty, Helena, Montana Association of Chiefs of Police
- Public comment* on the topic
 - Questions from the committee
- 10:00 a.m. **Committee Legislation:** Review of provisional draft committee legislation (LJIC-PD1):
Revise laws related to public safety agencies conducting background investigations
Laura Sherley, Committee Staff, LSD
- Public comment* on the topic
 - Questions from the committee
 - *Potential action item:* revise/approve LJIC-PD1, if wanted
- 10:20 a.m. **Break**
- 10:30 a.m. **Office of Court Administrator:** 2025 Workload Study
Dave McAlpin, Court Administrator
- Public comment* on the topic
 - Questions from the committee

- 11:00 a.m. **Bail Bonds and Remote Appearances:** Hosted discussion
Judge Matthew Cuffe, 19th Judicial District Court Judge, Lincoln County
Judge Mike Swingley, Justice of the Peace, Lewis and Clark County (Helena)
Judge Maureen O'Connor, City Judge, Stevensville (Bitterroot Valley)
Myshell Lyday, CODE Public Defender, Office of the State Public Defender
- Public comment* on the topic
 - Questions from the committee
- 1:00 p.m. **Public comment*** on any topic under the Committee's jurisdiction but not on this agenda
- 1:10 p.m. **Public comment*** on afternoon tour
- 1:15 p.m. **Recess** until March 6, 2026
- 2:30 p.m. **Elkhorn Treatment Center Tour***
 Location: 1 Riverside Road
 Boulder, MT 59632
**Tour is limited to committee members and staff*

March 6, 2026

- 8:45 a.m. **Reconvene**
Chair Regier
- 8:50 a.m. **Committee discussion** on the March 5, 2026, tour
- 9:00 a.m. **Department of Corrections:** Follow-up to committee questions and workgroup update
Eric Strauss, Director
Scott Eychner, Chief Executive Officer, Rehabilitation and Enterprise Division
Megan Coy, Deputy Chief, Rehabilitation and Enterprise Division
Sean Goeddel, Probation and Parole Bureau Chief, Public Safety Division
Morgan Davis, Compliance Specialist
- Public comment* on the topic
 - Questions from the committee
- 9:45 a.m. **Department of Justice:** Agency update
Sexual and Violent Offender Registry (SVOR)
Jamie Lavinder, Division of Criminal Investigation SVOR Program Supervisor
Caitlin Williams, Assistant Attorney General and SORNA Attorney
Sexual Assault Response Network (SARN) Program and proposed statutory changes
Hope Stockwell, SARN Coordinator
Alan Doane, Legislative Liaison
- Public comment* on the topic
 - Questions from the committee
 - *Potential action item:* Authorize drafting of proposed statutory changes, if wanted
- 10:45 a.m. **Break**
- 11:00 a.m. **7-Hydroxymitragynine:** Policy responses in other states
Jessica Guarino, Civil and Criminal Justice Policy Associate, NCSL
- Public comment* on the topic
 - Questions from the committee
- 11:45 a.m. **Administrative Rule Review**
Julianne Burkhardt, Legislative Attorney, LSD
- Public comment* on the topic
 - Questions from the committee

- 12:00 p.m. **Lunch**
- 1:00 p.m. **HJ 23 – Study of Youth Court Laws:** Study background and input from state agencies
Study background
Rep. James Reavis, State House District 47
State agency and stakeholder panel
Steve Ray, Pine Hills Correctional Facility Warden, Department of Corrections
Renaë Novak, Children’s Mental Health Bur. Chief, Dept. of Public Health & Human Serv.
Myshell Lyday, CODE Public Defender, Office of the State Public Defender
Hallie Bishop, Deputy Yellowstone County Attorney
 - Public comment* on the topic
 - Questions from the committee
- 2:15 p.m. **Break**
- 2:30 p.m. **Public comment*** on any item within the committee’s jurisdiction but not on this agenda
- 2:45 p.m. **Committee Work Session**
 - Instructions to staff:
 - Agency oversight
 - Assigned studies and member topics
 - Additional instructions to staff, if any
 - Next meeting date: May 7 -- Helena
- 3:30 p.m. **Adjourn**

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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 Law and Justice 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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