



# State Administration and Veterans' Affairs Interim Committee

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69th Montana Legislature

## SENATE MEMBERS

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LUKAS SCHUBERT  
PETER STRAND  
ERIC TILLEMAN

## COMMITTEE STAFF

REBECCA POWER, Lead Staff  
ANDRIA HARDIN, Staff Attorney  
ANIA ALDUENDA, Secretary

## MEETING AGENDA

*Updated 3/6/26*

SAVA Meeting #5 – Monday, March 9, 2026  
Room 154, Capitol Building, Helena

*All times are approximate. Some agenda items may take more or less time than scheduled.*

- 8:30 A.M. CALL TO ORDER | ROLL CALL | OPENING REMARKS [TAB 1]**  
*Senator Theresa Manzella, Presiding Officer*
- 8:35 A.M. DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AFFAIRS [TAB 2]**
- Veteran Service Officers Overview – Brigadier General Trenton Gibson, Adjutant General Montana National Guard
  - Follow-up to Committee Letter re. VA Hospital – Brigadier General Trenton Gibson, Adjutant General Montana National Guard
  - Public Comment\* re. DMA Presentations
  - Committee Discussion
- 9:35 A.M. OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER OF POLITICAL PRACTICES [TAB 3]**
- Use of AI by the Office of the Commissioner of Political Practices – Chris Gallus, Commissioner of Political Practices
  - Audits of Lobbying Reports – Chris Gallus, Commissioner of Political Practices
  - Public Comment\* re. COPP Presentations
  - Committee Discussion
- 10:35 A.M. BREAK**
- 10:45 A.M. HJ 48: STUDY OF MOVING THE PRIMARY ELECTION [TAB 4]**
- Summary of Committee Work on HJ 48 – Rebecca Power, Research Analyst
  - Public Comment\* re. HJ 48 Study
  - Committee Work Session – Next Steps for HJ 48 Study
- 11:30 A.M. PUBLIC COMMENT\* ON ANY TOPIC UNDER SAVA'S JURISDICTION [TAB 5]**
- NOON LUNCH**  
*Hosted by the Office of the Secretary of State for SAVA members*

- 1:00 P.M. SJ 35: STUDY OF VOTER LIST MAINTENANCE & INTEGRITY [TAB 7]**
- Research Requests – Rebecca Power, Research Analyst
    - UOCAVA Laws in Other States
    - Returned Jury Notices
  - Summary of Committee Work on SJ 35 – Rebecca Power, Research Analyst
  - Public Comment\* re. SJ 35 Study
  - Committee Work Session – SJ 35 Study Plan & Next Steps
- 2:30 P.M. BREAK**
- 2:40 P.M. MEMBER TOPIC: ELECTION SUPPORT PILOT PROGRAM [TAB 8]**
- Roundtable Discussion – Representative Kelly Kortum; Regina Plettenberg, Ravalli County; Janel Tucek, Fergus County
  - Public Comment\* re. Election Support Pilot Program
  - Committee Discussion
- 3:40 P.M. ADMINISTRATIVE RULE REVIEW [TAB 9]**
- Overview of March Rule Memo – Andria Hardin, Staff Attorney
  - Public Comment\* re. March Rule Memo
  - Committee Discussion
- 3:55 P.M. COMMITTEE WORK SESSION [TAB 10]**
- Committee Legislation Idea Tracker – Rebecca Power, Research Analyst
  - Committee Work Plan – Rebecca Power, Research Analyst
  - Public Comment\* re. Committee Work Session
  - Committee Questions
- 4:25 P.M. MEETING WRAP UP [TAB 10]**
- Upcoming Meetings:
    - Monday, May 4, 2026
    - Tuesday, July 7, 2026
    - Wednesday, September 2, 2026
    - Tuesday, October 27, 2026
- 4:30 P.M. ADJOURNMENT**

## **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 the State Administration and Veterans' 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.*

## **ACCESSIBILITY**

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