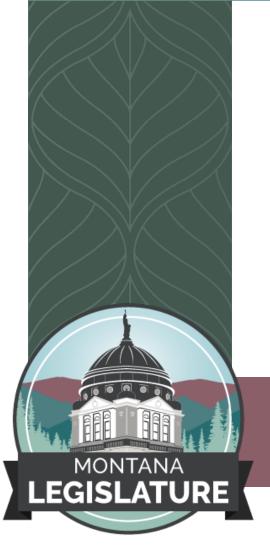
# DRAFT WORK PLAN

# 2025-2026 STATE ADMINISTRATION AND VETERANS' AFFAIRS INTERIM COMMITTEE



Prepared by Rebecca C. Power, Legislative Research Analyst For Committee Review and Discussion on July 30, 2025

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## **COMMITTEE WEBSITE**

https://committees.legmt.gov/#/nonStandingCommittees/3?tab=Details



## **INTRODUCTION & PURPOSE**

## PURPOSE OF DRAFT WORK PLAN

This draft work plan details the State Administration and Veterans' Affairs (SAVA) Interim Committee's study and agency oversight duties for the interim, which runs from July 1, 2025, through September 15, 2026. It also discusses other activities the committee may undertake. The draft work plan includes tools to help the committee determine its level of involvement in its interim study assignments, pension oversight responsibilities, and its agency monitoring duties. The primary constraint limiting the work plan for the interim is the number of issues that can be effectively addressed within the available time and resources of the committee members and staff.

Once adopted, the committee's work plan serves as the blueprint for the committee's activities over the interim. The final work plan reflects the committee's priorities, as indicated by the amount of time the committee decides to spend on each of its tasks. Staff uses the work plan to undertake research and arrange presentations related to the committee's studies and duties. Stakeholders and other members of the public use the plan to track various study topics and other items of interest. The work plan is intended to be a fluid document, subject to change during the interim as questions and topics arise and committee decisions are made.

## **COMMITTEE DECISION POINT**

Using the information in this work plan and the accompanying work plan decision matrix, the committee discusses and votes on how much time to allocate to various study topics and statutory duties. The committee can choose to study a few topics in great depth, or many topics on a surface level. The work plan must be finalized at the September 2025 SAVA meeting.

## COMMITTEE PROCEDURES AND PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The State Administration and Veterans' Affairs (SAVA) Interim Committee will operate under the Rules, Procedures, and Guidelines for Interim Committees adopted by the Legislative Council. As required by law, 10-day advance public notice will be given for all meetings and the public will be given an opportunity to comment on any matter that is within the jurisdiction of the committee. The presiding officer may establish time limits for public comments, if necessary. Agendas, memos, links, and other information can be found on the SAVA website: <a href="https://committees.legmt.gov/#/nonStandingCommittees/3">https://committees.legmt.gov/#/nonStandingCommittees/3</a>.

## **COMMITTEE DECISION POINT**

The committee votes on whether to allow the use of proxy votes.



# STATE ADMINISTRATION AND VETERANS' AFFAIRS INTERIM COMMITTEE STATUTORY DUTIES

## **OVERVIEW**

The State Administration and Veterans' Affairs Interim Committee draws its statutory responsibilities from the sources identified below. As applied to SAVA, statute requires the committee to:

- 1. **Conduct interim studies** as assigned. The committee may recommend to the Legislative Council that a study be assigned to another committee or not be conducted.
- 2. **Review administrative rules** of the Department of Administration, the Public Employees' Retirement Board, the Teachers' Retirement System Board, the Department of Military Affairs, the Montana Veterans' Affairs Division, the Office of the Secretary of State, and the Commissioner of Political Practices.
- 3. **Review the statutorily established advisory councils and required reports** of assigned agencies to make recommendations to the next legislature on retention or elimination of any advisory council or required reports (required only if requested by a member of the interim committee).
- 4. **Review legislation** proposed by the Department of Administration, the Public Employees' Retirement Board, the Teachers' Retirement System Board, the Department of Military Affairs, the Montana Veterans' Affairs Division, the Office of the Secretary of State, and the Commissioner of Political Practices. Bills requested by an individual member of the Legislature are not subject to this requirement.
- 5. **Review proposed statewide initiatives** within the interim committee's subject area and vote to either support or not support the placement of the test of a proposed statewide initiative on the ballot.
- 6. **Complete additional statutory duties** including oversight of the statewide public pension systems.
- 7. **Monitor the operation** of the Department of Administration, the Public Employees' Retirement Board, the Teachers' Retirement System Board, the Department of Military Affairs, the Montana Veterans' Affairs Division, the Office of the Secretary of State, and the Commissioner of Political Practices with specific attention to the following:
  - a. identification of issues likely to require future legislative attention;
  - b. opportunities to improve existing law through the analysis of problems; and
  - c. the experiences of Montana's citizens with the agency and whether these experiences may be amenable to improvement through legislative action.
- 8. **Prepare bills and resolutions** that, in the committee's opinion, the welfare of the state may require for presentation to the next regular legislative session. An interim committee may, by vote, request five bill drafts on a partisan basis and an unlimited number of bill drafts on a bipartisan basis.

## GENERAL DUTIES FOR ALL INTERIM COMMITTEES

#### 5-5-215. Duties of interim committees.

- 1. Each interim committee shall:
  - a. review administrative rules within its jurisdiction;
  - b. subject to 5-5-217(3), conduct interim studies as assigned;
  - c. monitor the operation of assigned executive branch agencies with specific attention to the following:
    - i. identification of issues likely to require future legislative attention;
    - ii. opportunities to improve existing law through the analysis of problems experienced with the application of the law by an agency; and



- iii. experiences of the state's citizens with the operation of an agency that may be amenable to improvement through legislative action;
- d. review, if requested by any member of the interim committee, the statutorily established advisory councils and required reports of assigned agencies to make recommendations to the next legislature on retention or elimination of any advisory council or required reports pursuant to 5-11-210:
- e. review proposed legislation of assigned agencies or entities as provided in the joint legislative rules;
- f. accumulate, compile, analyze, and furnish information bearing upon its assignment and relevant to existing or prospective legislation as it determines, on its own initiative, to be pertinent to the adequate completion of its work; and
- g. review proposed statewide initiatives as defined in 13-27-110 within the interim committee's subject area and vote to either support or not support the placement of the text of the proposed statewide initiative on the ballot in accordance with 13-27-228.
- 2. Each interim committee shall prepare bills and resolutions that, in its opinion, the welfare of the state may require for presentation to the next regular session of the legislature. An interim committee may by vote request five bill drafts on a partisan basis and an unlimited number of bill drafts on a bipartisan basis.
- 3. The legislative services division shall keep accurate records of the activities and proceedings of each interim committee.
- 4. As used in this section:
  - a. "bipartisan basis" means a vote in which members from more than one party vote to request a bill draft; and
  - b. "partisan basis" means a vote in which members from only the majority party vote to request a bill draft.

## STATE ADMINISTRATION AND VETERANS' AFFAIRS INTERIM COMMITTEE DUTIES

## 5-5-228. State administration and veterans' affairs interim committee.

- 1. The state administration and veterans' affairs interim committee has administrative rule review, draft legislation review, program evaluation, and monitoring functions for the public employee retirement plans and for the following executive branch agencies and, unless otherwise assigned by law, the entities attached to the agencies for administrative purposes:
  - a. department of administration, except:
    - i. the state compensation insurance fund provided for in 39-71-2313, including the board of directors of the state compensation insurance fund established in 2-15-1019;
    - ii. the Montana tax appeal board established in 2-15-1015;
    - iii. the division of banking and financial institutions; and
    - iv. the office of state public defender;
  - b. department of military affairs; and
  - c. office of the secretary of state.
- 2. The committee shall:
  - a. consider the actuarial and fiscal soundness of the state's public employee retirement systems, based on reports from the teachers' retirement board, the public employees' retirement board, and the board of investments, and study and evaluate the equity and benefit structure of the state's public employee retirement systems;
  - b. establish principles of sound fiscal and public policy as guidelines;



- c. as necessary, develop legislation to keep the retirement systems consistent with sound policy principles; and
- d. publish, for legislators' use, information on the public employee retirement systems that the committee considers will be valuable to legislators when considering retirement legislation.
- 3. The committee may:
  - a. specify the date by which retirement board proposals affecting a retirement system must be submitted to the committee for the review pursuant to subsection (1); and
  - b. request personnel from state agencies, including boards, political subdivisions, and the state public employee retirement systems, to furnish any information and render any assistance that the committee may request.





## **AGENCY MONITORING**

## **AGENCIES**

Pursuant to 5-5-228, MCA, the State Administration and Veterans' Affairs Interim Committee has administrative rule review, draft legislation review, program evaluation, and monitoring functions for the following executive branch agencies and, unless otherwise assigned by law, the entities attached to the agencies for administrative purposes:

- **The Department of Administration (DOA)** and the following administratively attached entities and boards, councils, and commissions:
  - Public Employees' Retirement Board (PERB / MPERA)
  - Teachers' Retirement Board (TRS)
  - State Lottery Commission
  - Advisory Council on Workforce Development and Planning
  - Board of Examiners
  - o Burial Preservation Board
  - Capitol Complex Advisory Council
  - Information Technology Board
  - Information Technology Managers Council
  - Montana Information Security Advisory Council
  - State Banking Board
  - State Employee Charitable Giving Campaign Advisory Council
  - State Employee Group Benefits Advisory Council
  - Employee Investment Advisory Council
- The Department of Military Affairs (DMA) and the following administratively attached entities:
  - Montana Veterans' Affairs Division (MVAD)
  - Board of Veterans' Affairs
- The Office of the Secretary of State (SOS) and the following administratively attached entities:
  - Office of Commissioner of Political Practices (COPP)
  - Board of State Canvassers

## ADMINISTRATIVE RULE REVIEW

Interim committees are required to review administrative rule proposals for the agencies for which they have oversight responsibility. The committee's legislative attorney reviews rulemaking notices and provides regular updates, noting any rules that may be out of compliance with the Montana Administrative Procedure Act (MAPA).

#### MAPA allows committees to:

- obtain an agency's rulemaking records to review them for compliance;
- submit written recommendations on adopting, amending, or rejecting a rule;
- require that a rulemaking hearing be held;
- require an economic impact statement relating to a rule adoption; and
- poll the Legislature by mail to determine if a proposed rule is consistent with legislative intent.



Interim committees may not prevent a rule or proposed amendment to a rule from being adopted, but a committee may object to the rule or amendment. If the majority of committee members object to the rule, the agency is notified, and the committee then addresses the rule at its next meeting. An objection may prevent a rule from being adopted for 6 months, during which time the agency may (but is not required to) withdraw or revise its proposed rule or rule change, or the committee may withdraw its objection. SB 82 (2021) allows the Speaker of the House and the Senate President to break a tie vote on any rule objection being considered by an interim committee.

## **COMMITTEE DECISION POINT**

By law, each interim committee meeting agenda includes an item for administrative rule review. The committee decides whether to ask for a formal presentation of each administrative rule review memorandum, or to have a discussion only if committee members have questions or concerns. The committee will receive a memo prior to each meeting no matter which approach to the agenda they choose.

## PROGRAM MONITORING

Interim committees are tasked with monitoring the operation of assigned executive branch agencies with specific attention to the following:

- identification of issues likely to require future legislative attention;
- opportunities to improve existing law through the analysis of problems experienced with the application of the law by an agency; and
- experiences of the state's citizens with the operation of an agency that may be amenable to improvement through legislative action.

## **COMMITTEE DECISION POINT**

During the organizational meeting, each agency under the committee's purview presents an introductory overview. When finalizing the work plan, the committee decides how much time to allocate for program monitoring activities throughout the rest of the interim.

## REVIEW OF ADVISORY COUNCILS AND REPORTS

At the request of any committee member, the committee may review statutorily created advisory councils and reports related to the agencies they oversee, to see if the councils or reports should be revised or repealed.

## **COMMITTEE DECISION POINT**

The committee decides how much time, if any, to allocate for review of advisory councils and reports.



## REVIEW OF DRAFT AGENCY LEGISLATION FOR PRE-INTRODUCTION

The interim committee process allows for an early review of agency-requested legislation. Interim committees can begin reviewing proposed legislation as early as June in the year preceding the next legislative session. This process frees up time for the Legislative Services Division to concentrate on legislator bill draft requests after the election. Agency bills drafted through this process must be introduced before the 2027 Legislative Session begins.

## REQUIRED AGENCY REPORTS

Agencies are required to submit certain reports to specific interim legislative committees by September 1<sup>st</sup> of the year preceding a legislative session, unless otherwise directed in statute. All reports must be submitted in writing. Committees may also request a presentation on a specific report from the agency. These reports are submitted in compliance with 5-11-210, MCA, which establishes the Legislative Services Division as the clearinghouse for the reports.

### **DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION**

REPORT	FREQUENCY	MCA
Report on Information	Biennial	5-11-222 (3)(b)(i)
Technology Activities		
<b>Capitol Complex Advisory Council</b>	Biennial	5-11-222 (3)(b)(ii)
Report		
Employee Incentive Program	Biennial	5-11-222 (3)(b)(iii)
Report		

## MONTANA VETERANS' AFFAIRS DIVISION

REPORT	FREQUENCY	MCA
Montana Board of Veterans'	Biennial	5-11-222 (3)(b)(iv)
Affairs Report		
Decennial Veterans' Long Term	Decennial	5-11-222 (3)(b)(v)
Care Needs Study		

### DEPARTMENT OF MILITARY AFFAIRS

REPORT	FREQUENCY	MCA
Grants to the Montana Civil Air	Biennial	5-11-222 (3)(b)(vi)
Patrol		

#### SECRETARY OF STATE

REPORT	FREQUENCY	MCA
Statewide Election Security	Annual	5-11-222 (3)(b)(vi)
Report		
Report on the Use of Help	Annual	5-11-222 (3)(b)(viii)
America Vote Act (HAVA) Funds		
Youth Voting Program	If requested by a SAVA member	5-11-222 (3)(b)(ix)



Changes Affecting Filing-Office	As needed	5-11-222 (3)(b)(xv)
Rules under the Uniform		
Commercial Code		
Report of Statewide Canvassed	After each election subject to a	NEW – SB 440 (5)(c)
Election Results	statewide canvass	

### COMMISSIONER OF POLITICAL PRACTICES

REPORT	FREQUENCY	MCA
Commissioner of Political	Biennial	5-11-222 (3)(b)(x)
Practices Report		

## **BOARD OF INVESTMENTS**

REPORT	FREQUENCY	MCA
Report on Retirement System	Annual	5-11-222 (3)(b)(xi)
Trust Investments		

## PUBLIC EMPLOYEES' RETIREMENT BOARD

REPORT	FREQUENCY	MCA
Actuarial Valuation Report	Annual	5-11-222 (3)(b)(xii)

## TEACHERS' RETIREMENT SYSTEM BOARD

REPORT	FREQUENCY	MCA
Actuarial Valuation Report	Annual	5-11-222 (3)(b)(xiii)
Report on Reemployment of	Biennial	5-11-222 (3)(b)(xiv)
Retired TRS Members		

## **COMMITTEE DECISION POINT**

Each agency report is due, in writing, by September 1<sup>st</sup> (unless otherwise noted) annually, biennially, or as requested or needed. The committee determines how much time to devote to reviewing the reports, and if they would like to request presentations from the agencies on some or all of the reports.



## PENSION OVERSIGHT

## PENSION STATUTORY DUTIES

The State Administration and Veterans' Affairs Interim Committee has specific statutory responsibilities with respect to the statewide public employee retirement systems. Per 5-5-228, MCA, the SAVA committee shall:

- consider the actuarial and fiscal soundness of the state's public employee retirement systems, based on reports from the teachers' retirement board, the public employees' retirement board, and the board of investments, and study and evaluate the equity and benefit structure of the state's public employee retirement systems;
- establish principles of sound fiscal and public policy as guidelines;
- as necessary, develop legislation to keep the retirement systems consistent with sound policy principles; and
- publish, for legislators' use, information on the public employee retirement systems that the committee considers will be valuable to legislators when considering retirement legislation.

### **COMMITTEE DECISION POINT**

The committee decides how much time to devote to this responsibility during the interim.

## ANNUAL ACTUARIAL VALUATION REPORTS

The two major pension bills that passed the 2013 Session, House Bill 377 and House Bill 454, require the Teachers' Retirement Board and the Public Employees' Retirement Board to each make an annual report to SAVA and the Legislative Finance Committee (LFC) as soon as possible after the actuarial results are available.

## **COMMITTEE DECISION POINT**

The committee is required to receive the valuation reports annually. The committee decides whether to hear the valuation reports at the SAVA meetings in November 2025 and October 2026 or to hold a joint meeting with the Legislative Finance Committee in December of each year.

## LEGISLATOR'S GUIDE TO MONTANA'S PUBLIC EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT SYSTEMS

The SAVA committee is responsible for updating and publishing the Legislator's Guide to Montana's Public Employee Retirement Systems prior to each legislative session.

## **COMMITTEE DECISION POINT**

The committee is required to update the Legislator's Guide prior to each session. The committee decides how much time to devote to this responsibility during the interim. A major overhaul of the Guide was completed during the 2024-2025 Interim.



## **INTERIM STUDIES**

## STUDY PROCESS

An interim study typically involves information gathering, issue identification, and recommendations.

Gather Information

Identify Issues & Information & Information & Identify Options for Action

Finalize Findings, Recommendations, & Deliverables

#### PHASE ONE: GATHER INFORMATION

The first phase of the study is carried out over the first few meetings of the interim, when the Committee:

- reviews staff research papers and other informational materials on study topics;
- hears presentations by experts on various aspects of the study topics; and
- takes public comment from interested parties, who may offer specific study-related suggestions.

### PHASE TWO: IDENTIFY ISSUES & NARROW FOCUS

In the second phase, the Committee spends a meeting or two narrowing the focus of the study. Members identify topics or questions they'd like to analyze further. This phase helps members concentrate on the issues they consider to be of the greatest importance and obtain any additional information needed to make final recommendations.

## PHASE THREE: ANALYZE INFORMATION & IDENTIFY OPTIONS FOR ACTION

During the third stage, members review and decide on options for action. Potential solutions, including legislation, are usually reviewed and refined at multiple meetings before the Committee takes final action.

## PHASE FOUR: FINALIZE FINDINGS, RECOMMENDATIONS, & DELIVERABLES

By the end of the interim, the committee should finalize a set of findings and recommendations and complete any deliverables including a final report and, possibly, committee legislation for the next legislative session.

## HJ 48: STUDY OF MOVING THE DATE OF THE PRIMARY ELECTION

HJ 48 was ranked #17 in the 2025 Legislator Poll and was assigned to the State Administration and Veterans' Affairs Interim Committee by the Legislative Council during their June 10, 2025, meeting. The study resolution was requested by the 2025 House State Administration Standing Committee.

#### TASKS LISTED IN HJ 48 STUDY RESOLUTION

- Study moving the date of Montana's primary election.
- Examine existing dates, deadlines, and other procedures in Montana law that would need to be adjusted in order to change the date of the primary election.
- Assess any potential conflicts with the current timeline for the decennial districting and apportionment processes.



- Evaluate the impact of the changes on election administrators and voters.
- Examine the impact on other elections of changing the primary election date and identify possible areas for consolidation and efficiency.
- Identify the possible benefits, drawbacks, and tradeoffs for the voters of Montana of moving the date of the primary election.
- Develop legislation to introduce during the 70th legislative session that includes a new primary election date and all the changes needed to the Montana Code Annotated to implement the date change.
- Consult with all interested stakeholders, including but not limited to county election administrators, the Office of the Secretary of State, local and tribal government leaders, school administrators and officials, the Office of Public Instruction, stakeholder groups, and interested citizens.

## **COMMITTEE DECISION POINT**

The committee decides how much time to devote to the HJ 48 study, and how deep of a dive to take into the topic. The committee can also decide not to move forward with the study.

## SJ 35: STUDY OF VOTER LIST MAINTENANCE AND INTEGRITY

SJ 35 was ranked #19 in the 2025 Legislator Poll and was assigned to the State Administration and Veterans' Affairs Interim Committee by the Legislative Council during their June 10, 2025, meeting.

## TASKS LISTED IN SJ 35 STUDY RESOLUTION

- Study voter list maintenance in Montana, including the practices associated with maintaining these lists at the local level by county election administrators and at the state level by the Office of the Secretary of State.
- Research practices used in other states and identify best practices.
- Identify and correct inconsistencies and inadequacies in Montana election voter list maintenance programs that compromise election integrity.
- Evaluate how state and local databases, such as those maintained by the Motor Vehicle Division, utility companies, courts, the Department of Corrections, and the Department of Public Health and Human Services, may be used to help maintain the accuracy of voter lists.
- Evaluate how national databases, such as those maintained by the United States Postal Service, could be better utilized to help maintain the accuracy of voter lists.
- Research what other federal data is available regarding citizenship and voting history that may be useful for maintaining the accuracy of voter lists.
- Identify places in which state law needs to be reconciled with federal law.
- Develop legislation to address these issues and be introduced in the 70th legislative session.
- Consult with all interested stakeholders, including but not limited to election administrators, the Office of the Secretary of State, and concerned citizens.

### **COMMITTEE DECISION POINT**

The committee decides how much time to devote to the SJ 35 study, and how deep of a dive to take into the topic. The committee can also decide not to move forward with the study.



## OTHER COMMITTEE WORK

## REVIEW OF PROPOSED STATEWIDE BALLOT ISSUES

Interim committees are required to hold a public hearing on a statewide initiative referred to the committee by the executive director of the Legislative Services Division. The committee then votes to either support or not support the placement of the proposed statewide initiative on the ballot. The committee's vote does not impact the placement of the proposed initiative on the ballot, but it is included on the signature gathering form.

The review process may result in additional committee meetings because the committee vote must be submitted to the Secretary of State no later than 14 days after receipt of the final text of the statewide initiative.

The statutory requirement for interim committee review of ballot initiatives is being litigated at the Montana Supreme Court. Staff will update the committees when litigation is completed and if the committees have any duties in this area while the case is pending (Case: *Ellingson v. State,* Montana Supreme Court No. DA 25-0142 (Filed Feb. 18, 2025)).

## MEMBER TOPICS

Interim committees may take up other matters related to the agencies and topics areas they oversee. Depending on whether committee members put greater or less emphasis on their statutory duties related to interim studies and agency monitoring, they have more time to focus on SAVA-relevant member topics.

#### PROPOSED MEMBER TOPICS

The following topics were proposed by individual SAVA committee members for consideration of the full committee.

PROPOSED TOPIC	OVERVIEW	EST. TIME NEEDED
HB 488 (2025)	HB 488 passed the House during the 2025 Legislative Session and then died in the Senate. Some committee members expressed interest in looking at the bill and exploring ways to amend it to address the concerns raised by the bill's opponents.	1-2 meetings
Pilot program for additional support to election offices during busy times	Exploring the possibility of creating a pilot program through the Secretary of State's Office to provide additional support (with all the relevant training and qualifications) to election offices during the busiest parts of election season.	3-4 meetings

## **COMMITTEE DECISION POINT**

In addition to the assigned study resolutions and pension oversight responsibilities, the committee may decide to add additional topics to the work plan. The committee can choose to study a few topics in great depth, or many topics on a surface level.



## **EMERGING ISSUES**

Members may propose investigation of emerging issues at any time during the interim. Agencies may also request that the committee study an emerging issue that has resulted from court decisions, federal actions, or another cause.

Emerging issues are not necessarily member issues and may be raised by an agency or by staff. However, to be on the agenda, the Presiding Officer or other SAVA member must request agenda time. Staff resources are limited, so additions to the work plan must be accompanied by deletions to retain scheduling balance.

## **COMMITTEE DECISION POINT**

Issues often arise throughout the interim, so the committee can choose to save a little time in the work plan to address them as they emerge, or to reallocate time from other topics as needed.

## **COMMITTEE LEGISLATION**

Per section 5-5-215(2), MCA, "each interim committee shall prepare bills and resolutions that, in its opinion, the welfare of the state may require for presentation to the next regular session of the legislature."

HB 142 (2025) revised 5-5-215 (2) to state that:

(2) "...An interim committee may by vote request **four five** bill drafts on a partisan basis and an unlimited number of bill drafts on a bipartisan basis.

....

- (4) As used in this section:
- (a) "bipartisan basis" means a vote in which members from more than one party vote to request a bill draft; and
- (b) "partisan basis" means a vote in which members from only **one** the majority party vote to request a bill draft.



## PROPOSED MEETING SCHEDULE

## ALLOCATION OF COMMITTEE TIME

Interim committees can meet up to 10 times during the interim (between July 1, 2025, through September 15, 2026). The SAVA Interim Committee traditionally holds an additional meeting in October after the completion of the interim to receive the results of the annual actuarial valuation reports from the pension boards.

The committee can decide to hold all their meetings in Helena, to hold some two-day meetings, to add field trips to the schedule, and/or to hold joint meetings with the Legislative Finance Committee and/or the Section A Interim Budget Committee. Considerations include:

- **Travel:** Interim committee rules state that interim committee meetings are held in the Capitol "unless otherwise designated by the Presiding Officer". Committees sometimes travel within or outside of Helena to carry out activities related to a specific study or to the committee's general agency oversight duties. Meetings held outside of Helena generally cost more than those held in Helena. As a result, the committee may need to hold fewer meetings to accommodate the additional costs of travel.
- **Subcommittees and Work Groups:** All meetings of subcommittees and work groups are counted towards the committee's total number of meeting days, so the full committee may need to hold fewer meetings to accommodate the meetings of these smaller groups.
- **Coordination with Interim Budget Committees:** HB 110 (2023) codified the interim budget committees. The interim budget committees meet quarterly. If the committee is interested in coordinating a meeting with the Section A Interim Budget Committee, the proposed SAVA meeting schedule will likely need to be changed.
- Coordination with Legislative Finance Committee: If the committee decides to hold a joint meeting with the Legislative Finance Committee in December 2025 and/or December 2026 to hear the annual actuarial valuation results from the pension boards, the proposed SAVA meeting schedule will likely need to be changed.

## PROPOSED MEETING DATES

The proposed meeting schedule can be revised if the Committee decides to hold one or more two-days meetings, decides to travel, decides to hold a joint meeting with the Section A IBC, or decides to align some of their meeting dates with the Legislative Finance Committee. The meeting schedule must be finalized and submitted to Legislative Council no later than August 15, 2025.

Wednesday, July 30, 2025	Organizational meeting
Thursday, September 25, 2025	
Thursday, November 20, 2025	
Wednesday, January 14, 2026	
Thursday, March 12, 2026	
Thursday, May 7, 2026	
Thursday, July 9, 2026	
Thursday, September 3, 2026	Complete regular interim work (wrap-up studies, approve final reports, etc.)
Thursday, October 29, 2026	½ day meeting for annual actuarial valuation reports from MPERA and TRS

