



THE INTERIM

December 2012

A monthly newsletter of the Montana Legislative Branch

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The Interim, along with up-to-date information about interim committees, is also available on the Legislative Branch website at www.leg.mt.gov.



At party caucuses on Nov. 14, legislators selected leadership for the 2013 session. From left to right are Sen. Jeff Essmann, president-elect of the Senate; Jon Sesso, Senate minority leader; Rep. Mark Blasdel, House speaker-elect; and Rep. Chuck Hunter, House minority leader.

Legislators Select Leaders for 2013 Session

At separate party caucuses held on Nov. 14, Democratic and Republican members of the 2013 Legislature chose their leaders for the upcoming session. The full membership of the House and Senate must confirm the selections when the Legislature convenes on Jan. 7.

Senate Republicans chose Sen. Jeff Essmann of Billings to serve as president of the Senate, while House Republicans chose Rep. Mark Blasdel of Somers as speaker of the House. Republicans hold a majority in both chambers, so members of that party will head up each house.

Other officers elected by their respective caucuses are as follows.

HOUSE

- Majority Leader: Rep. Gordon Vance, R-Bozeman
- Speaker Pro Tem: Rep. Austin Knudsen, R-Culbertson
- Minority Leader: Rep. Chuck Hunter, D-Helena
- Republican Whips: Christy Clark, Choteau; Mike Cuffe, Eureka; Cary Smith, Billings; and Jeffrey Welborn, Dillon
- Democratic Whips: Reps. Margie MacDonald, Billings, and Edith "Edie" McClafferty, Butte

SENATE

- Majority Leader: Sen. Art Wittich, R-Bozeman
- President Pro Tem: Sen. Debby Barrett, R-Dillon
- Minority Leader: Sen. Jon Sesso, D-Butte
- Republican Whips: Sens. Lew Jones, Conrad; Eric Moore, Miles City; and Janna Taylor, Dayton
- Democratic Whips: Sens. Robyn Driscoll, Billings, and Cliff Larsen, Missoula

The Senate also chose members of the Committee on Committees, which appoints members of the Senate standing committees. Those members are Sens. John Brenden of Scobey, Ed Buttrey of Great Falls, Dave Lewis of Helena, Rick Ripley of Wolf Creek, Chas Vincent of Libby, and Ed Walker of Billings.

The speaker of the House appoints members of House standing committees.



Other leaders chosen on Nov. 14 were, left to right: Sen. Art Wittich, Senate majority leader; Sen. Debby Barrett, Senate president pro tempore; Rep. Gordon Vance, House majority leader; and Rep. Austin Knudsen, House speaker pro tempore.

Committee Presiding Officers Named

The newly elected leadership of the Montana House and Senate has announced the names of legislators who will serve as presiding officers of the session committees during the 2013 Legislature.

The following Republican senators have been appointed as presiding officers of the Senate committees:

Senate Committee	Presiding Officer
Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation	Sen. Taylor Brown, Huntley
Business and Labor	Sen. Jon Sonju, Kalispell
Education and Cultural Resources	Sen. Jim Peterson, Buffalo
Energy	Sen. Alan Olson, Roundup
Ethics	Sen. Elsie Arntzen, Billings
Finance and Claims	Sen. Rick Ripley, Wolf Creek
Fish and Game	Sen. John Brenden, Scobey
Highways and Transportation	Sen. Elsie Arntzen, Billings
Judiciary	Sen. Terry Murphy, Cardwell
Legislative Administration	Sen. Ed Buttrey, Great Falls
Local Government	Sen. Ed Buttrey, Great Falls
Natural Resources	Sen. Chas Vincent, Libby
Public Health	Sen. Jason Priest, Red Lodge
Rules	Sen. Art Wittich, Bozeman
State Administration	Sen. Ron Arthun, Wilsall
Taxation	Sen. Bruce Tutvedt, Kalispell

The following Republican representatives have been appointed as presiding officers of House committees.

House Committee	Presiding Officer
Agriculture	Rep. Lee Randall, Broadus
Appropriations	Rep. Duane Ankney, Colstrip
Business and Labor	Rep. Tom Berry, Roundup
Education	Rep. Kris Hansen, Havre
Ethics	Rep. Scott Reichner, Bigfork
Federal Relations, Energy, and Telecommunications	Rep. Keith Regier, Kalispell
Fish, Wildlife, and Parks	Rep. Jeffrey Welborn, Dillon
Human Services	Rep. David Howard, Park City
Judiciary	Rep. Krayton Kerns, Laurel
Legislative Administration	Rep. Jesse O'Hara, Great Falls
Local Government	Rep. Liz Bangerter, Helena
Natural Resources	Rep. Jerry Bennett, Libby
Rules	Rep. Cary Smith, Billings
State Administration	Rep. Pat Ingraham, Thompson Falls
Taxation	Rep. Mike Miller, Helmville
Transportation	Rep. Steve Lavin, Kalispell

Redistricting Panel Considers Senate Districts

On Nov. 15, current and future legislators and members of the public crowded a hearing room in the Capitol to give the Montana Districting and Apportionment Commission their views on how the commissioners should create state Senate districts. The commission is wrapping up its nearly four-year, constitutional duty to redraw state legislative boundaries to reflect recent population changes.

The commissioners did not offer proposals about how they would pair up the 100 state House districts to create the 50 state Senate districts, but those proposals will be discussed and voted on at the commission's Nov. 30 meeting. The commissioners also will assign holdover senators to Senate districts for the 2015 session. A holdover senator is one who was elected to a four-year term in 2012. These senators represent the district to which they were elected until the new redistricting plan becomes effective for the 2014 elections. Once the new districts are effective, the senator will represent the assigned district until the 2016 elections.

On Wednesday, Dec. 19, the commission will meet again in Helena to hold a public hearing on the complete redistricting plan, as required by law. Members of the public will have the opportunity to comment on any part of the plan, from the lines of the House and Senate districts to the district assignments of holdover senators.

After the public has spoken, the commissioners will adopt a plan to send to the 2013 Legislature for its review and recommendations. The commission must submit the plan to

the Legislature by the 10th legislative day, which is currently scheduled for Jan. 17. The Legislature has 30 calendar days to review the plan and send its recommendations for changes to the commission. The commission then has 30 more days to consider those recommendations and make any changes it wishes. It is not required to make changes before it submits the plan to the Montana Secretary of State. After the plan is submitted to the Secretary of State, the plan is final, and the commission is dissolved.

Maps and Public Comment

Maps detailing the Tentative Commission Plan are available at the commission's website. The commission continues to accept and encourage written public comment, especially for those unable to attend the December public hearing. All submitted comments are copied and distributed to each commissioner, as well as made available on the website. Written comment may be sent by regular mail to the Districting and Apportionment Commission, Legislative Services Division, P.O. Box 201706, Helena, MT, 59620-1706. Comments also may be sent by e-mail, to districting@mt.gov, or by fax, to 406-444-3036.

Next Meeting

The commission meets next on Dec. 19 at 2 p.m. in Room 172 of the Capitol. For more information on the commission's upcoming activities, meetings, and maps, visit the commission's website or contact Rachel Weiss, commission staff.

Commission Website: www.leg.mt.gov/districting
 Commission Staff: rweiss@mt.gov or 406-444-5367

Committee Reviews 10 Audits

The Legislative Audit Committee met in late October to review 10 financial compliance and performance audits of state agencies and programs. Audit findings include the following:

- A financial compliance audit of the Department of Administration (12-13) found that in combination, state law and state accounting policy permitted the use of earmarked state special revenue fund dollars for purposes other than they were intended, and negative cash balances associated with this activity resulted in a loss of general fund interest earnings exceeding \$145,000 for the two years under audit. In addition, the department avoided an issue involving fees commensurate with costs by moving \$1.4 million in revenues from its Rent & Maintenance Internal Service Fund to a state special revenue fund account.
- A performance audit of the administration of Montana's Unemployment Insurance Program (12P-01) determined that the Department of Labor and Industry could improve the timeliness of unemployment benefit eligibility decisions by streamlining the claim review process. In addition, improving collection controls would help the department collect millions of dollars in delinquent state unemployment insurance taxes and recover overpaid benefits.
- A performance audit of the Highway Safety Improvement Program (HSIP) at the Department of Transportation (12P-07) found that the department should evaluate the program to ensure that the \$80 million in state and federal funds obligated to safety projects results in a reduction in traffic fatalities and serious injuries on public roads in Montana. The audit also recommended strengthening internal controls for the program to track and document the status and completion of HSIP projects.
- A financial compliance audit of the Office of the Commissioner of Political Practices (12-21) resulted in two recommendations related to compliance with state accounting policy. The office successfully implemented a procedure to allocate revenue from multi-year lobbyist licenses to the three fiscal years covered by the 2011 and 2012 calendar-year licensing period. However, the office did not detect and correct deferred revenue errors continuing from the previous audit period. The office also accrued expenditures in fiscal year 2010-2011 for which it did not have a contract in place by June 30, 2011. The report also contained a recommendation concerning use of administrative rules to adjust the minimum payment to lobbyists that triggers a financial reporting requirement.
- A performance audit of the One-Stop Business Licensing Program (12P-05) revealed the need for the Department of Revenue to strengthen some elements of program administration and for the Legislature to re-evaluate the Small Business Licensing Coordination Act.
- A financial compliance audit report of the Department of Corrections (12-15) made recommendations relating to maintaining fees commensurate with costs in the license plate Internal Service Fund, making deposits to the inmate welfare account, and documenting and testing internal controls.
- A financial compliance audit of the Department of Military Affairs (12-25) resulted in three recommendations related to recruitment and selection procedures, miscoded accruals, and compliance with the Federal Transparency Act. The department had 10 prior audit recommendations, and nine of those were implemented. The one recommendation that was not implemented, relating to expenditure accruals, is a recommendation in this report.
- A financial compliance audit of the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (12-17) identified several areas needing improvement. These include inadequate procedures for trust land acquisitions, state parks on trust lands, inadequate controls over transactions governed by statute or policy, and the use and payment of excess leave payouts.
- A financial compliance audit of the Office of the Public Defender (12-28) identified an error in the June 30, 2011, general fund balance of a material amount. The report contains four recommendations to implement internal controls over financial reporting and to safeguard office assets, as well as to comply with state policies.
- Due to a department error in inflation factor calculations, potential overpayments of individual income taxes were found by a financial compliance audit of the Department of Revenue (12-14). The miscalculation resulted in an estimated overcollection of approximately \$700,000. This equates to between \$0 and \$2 per individual for 75 percent of taxpayers and \$3 or more for the remaining taxpayers.

The Legislative Audit Division provides independent and objective evaluations of the stewardship, performance, and cost of government policies, programs, and operations. The division is responsible for conducting financial, performance, and information system audits of state agencies and programs, including the Montana University System. For more information, call the division at 406-444-3122. To search for a specific audit, use the identifier listed above in parenthe-

ses. To report improper acts committed by state agencies, departments, or employees, call the division fraud hotline at 800-222-4446, email the division at LADHotline@mt.gov, or use the new online fraud form by clicking the Audit tab on the home page of the legislative website, www.leg.mt.gov, and then clicking on “Fraud Hotline.” On the subsequent page, follow the instructions for completing the online form.

Next Meeting

The next Audit Committee meeting is scheduled for Dec. 20. For more information about the committee and its activities, visit the Legislative Audit Division website or contact Legislative Auditor Tori Hunthausen.

Division Website: www.leg.mt.gov/audit

Division Contact: 406-444-3122

Council Wraps Up Pre-Session Planning

The Legislative Council adopted the proposed rules for the 2013 Legislature at its final meeting of the interim on Nov. 13. The council also made other preparations for the upcoming session by setting the price for the 2013 session proceedings, adopting the pay matrix for employees hired for the session, and assigning members to sponsor the bills requested by the committee.

The proposed rules will govern everything from committee and floor action during the legislative session to deadlines for introducing and acting on bills. The council adopted joint rules for general legislative procedures, as well as rules for the operation of the House and the Senate.

The rules will be forwarded to the Joint, House, and Senate Rules committees, which will meet Dec. 3 for training and consideration of the proposed rules. A link to the proposed rules and a table of proposed changes can be found on the legislative website, www.leg.mt.gov, by clicking on the “Sessions” link on the left-hand side of the page and selecting “2013 Session” from the drop-down menu.

Also at its meeting, the council received:

- an update on litigation related to state cabin site leases and to the 2011 Legislature’s decision against funding pay raises negotiated by the governor and employee unions;
- a copy of the final report on the retrocommissioning of the Capitol Building; and
- a presentation on the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws from Commissioners Edwin Eck and Karen Powell. They provided information on a number of model acts that Montana may want to adopt.

The Legislative Council and the Legislative Finance Committee also provided a farewell to their members who are not returning. Many thanks for years of public service on the Legislative Council go to Sen. Carol Williams of Missoula, Rep. Mike Milburn of Cascade, and Rep. Tom McGillvray of Billings.

For more information on council activities, including agendas, minutes, and meeting materials, visit the council’s website or contact Legislative Services Executive Director Susan Byorth Fox.

Council Website: www.leg.mt.gov/legcouncil

Council Staff: sfox@mt.gov or 406-444-3066

Fiscal Division Explains Budget Basics

When the 63rd Legislature convenes in January, fiscal issues such as large immediate costs from fires, small fiscal notes attached to legislation, economic conditions, federal funding changes, and everything in between will be on the legislative agenda. Some of these issues will be rolled up into appropriation bills, the largest being the General Appropriations Act, otherwise known as House Bill 2. HB 2 contains the bulk of appropriations to support the ongoing functions of state government. As such, it is large and complex, containing individual appropriations for each program in state government, as well as any language placing conditions on the appropriation.

Five joint appropriations subcommittees will meet for the first half of the session to hold budget hearings and develop a recommendation to the full House Appropriations Committee to create the introduced version of HB 2, based on the budget submission of the governor. In creating HB 2, lawmakers examine the base budget, statewide present law adjustments, and the adjusted base. An examination of these concepts can provide insight into the budgeting process.

Base Budget

For the base budget, the Legislature generally uses adjusted expenditures made during the last fully completed year as a starting point for the next two-year budget period. Total expenditures are adjusted to remove items that are inappropriate for consideration as expenditures for ongoing functions. As a result, “adjusted” base differs from “actual” base, which consists of total expenditures. Among the items removed from the base are statutory appropriations, budget amendments, funds transferred from other agencies, and one-time expenditures.

Present Law Base

Consistent with substantive law, the present law base will reflect the expenditures, funding, and FTE required to main-

tain operations and services at the level authorized by the previous Legislature, including legally mandated workload, caseload, or enrollment increases or decreases but excluding funding shifts. Those must be new proposals in accordance with 17-7-102(9), MCA. Two types of present law adjustments can occur — those that are made on a per-program basis and those that are common to all agencies statewide. Those common adjustments are: personal services, vacancy savings, fixed costs, and inflation/deflation factors. The table below illustrates the dollar value of statewide present law adjustments contained in the governor's budget submission of Nov. 15, 2012.

Statewide Present Law Adjustments			
	FY 2014	FY 2015	Biennium
Personal Services	68,881,612	69,023,257	137,904,869
Vacancy Savings (4%)	(33,217,828)	(33,232,047)	(66,449,875)
Fixed Costs	6,380,480	3,787,261	10,167,741
Inflation/Deflation	<u>(1,183,329)</u>	<u>(301,885)</u>	<u>(1,485,214)</u>
	<u>\$40,860,935</u>	<u>\$39,276,586</u>	<u>\$80,137,521</u>

Following is an explanation of each category.

Personal Services: The adjustment, when added to the base budget, creates a fully funded personal services budget. This reflects the current level positions authorized in Fiscal Year 2013. The adjustments are made to reflect workers' compensation rates, unemployment insurance, FICA, retirement contribution rates, number of hours each fiscal year, salary adjustments, longevity adjustments, and health insurance rates. Some adjustments have been made for elected official salaries that are statutorily set and for salaries of exempt staff hired by elected officials.

To gain insight on personal services costs, review the September report to the Legislative Finance Committee entitled "*Personal Services Analysis*," by Kris Wilkinson. The report includes, among other items, impacts of recent pay increases and the budgetary implications for the 2015 biennium. The report can be found on the legislative website, www.leg.mt.gov.

Vacancy Savings: This adjustment reduces the fully funded personal services budget to account for natural turnover in staff. For the 2015 biennium, the governor's submitted budget applied a 4 percent personal services reduction to agencies that are not statutorily exempt from vacancy savings. (Exemptions include agencies with less than 20 FTE, the legislative branch, the judiciary, Highway Patrol officers, game wardens, and the staff at the Montana School for the Deaf and Blind.)

Fixed Costs: If the cost of services provided by one agency to another agency increases or decreases, the change needs to be allocated and funded by each agency. The providing agency works with the governor's budget office to establish

new rates for services. The difference, if any, is then allocated across state government. Appropriations subcommittees may examine the rates and propose changes. Matching adjustments to the budgets of other agencies would need to occur if a change is made. The costs of the following services were adjusted statewide in the governor's submission:

- Department of Administration: insurance, warrant writing fees, human resource information fees, workers' compensation management fee, SABHRS costs, Information Technology Services Division charges, messenger services, Capitol Complex rent, Capitol Complex grounds maintenances, and the Statewide Cost Allocation Plan
- Legislative Branch: legislative audit fees
- Department of Transportation: Motor Pool lease vehicles

In addition, the budget submission includes the creation of a new fixed cost to support the Professional Development Center.

Inflation/Deflation Factors: This adjustment accounts for changes on selected expenditure accounts, primarily utilities, fuel, and food. These rates adjust the base expenditures accordingly. For example, if an agency spent \$1,000 on postage, the FY 2014 adjusted base for postage would be \$1,029. If an agency anticipates that the amount of a commodity it uses will increase, a request for the additional authority must be included in the agency's present law adjustments.

Expenditure	Factor	
	FY 2014	FY 2015
Postage and Mailing	2.94%	5.28%
Electricity	2.99%	5.69%
Natural Gas	-25.83%	-25.83%
Laboratory Gas	-5.73%	-3.41%
Propane	-5.73%	-3.41%
Gasoline	-8.30%	-5.61%
Aviation Gasoline	-8.30%	-5.61%
Diesel Fuel	-8.30%	-5.61%
Jet Fuel	-8.30%	-5.61%
Food Accounts	2.95%	5.23%
Motor Pool Accounts	-4.44%	-2.99%
Library Books	2.94%	5.28%

Since a majority of these factors are negative, the statewide impact is a reduction of approximately \$1.5 million.

Adjusted Base

When the statewide present law factors are adopted, whether at the governor's proposed level or a different one, the financial adjustments are made to the base to define the adjusted

base. The adjusted base then becomes the starting point to add or subtract budgeted amounts to implement adjustments to create HB 2.

More Information

The Legislative Fiscal Division publishes “*Understanding State Finances and the Budgeting Process*” which provides much more detail on budget matters. The document is available on the division’s website and can be accessed by clicking on the Fiscal tab at the top of the legislative home page, clicking on the Publications link on the subsequent page, and then selecting “*Understanding State Finances*” under the Fiscal Facts and General Publications category.

Taryn Purdy is the principal author of the document and received NCSL recognition for her efforts.

More fiscal information is available on the division’s website or by contacting staffers Barb Smith or Taryn Purdy.

Division Website: www.leg.mt.gov/fiscal

Staff Contacts: basmith@mt.gov or 406-444-2986
tpurdy@mt.gov or 406-444-2986

RTIC Meeting Ends Without Revenue Estimate

The Revenue and Transportation Interim Committee met Nov. 19 in Helena with the primary purpose of adopting a revenue estimate. The Legislative Fiscal Division (LFD) and the Office of Budget and Program Planning (OBPP) presented revenue estimates that differed by 0.05 percent. Budget Director Dan Villa also proposed including the revenue estimate in the general appropriations bill, House Bill 2.

Typically, the revenue estimate is prepared as a joint resolution as required by the Legislature’s 2011 joint rules.

A motion to follow the OBPP recommendation failed, as did a motion to adopt the LFD assumptions. A motion to delay the revenue estimate until after the Rules Committee meeting on Dec. 3 also failed. The committee adjourned without adopting a revenue estimate.

In other business, the committee adopted updated versions of the final reports for the Senate Joint Resolution 17 study of centrally assessed and industrial property and the SJR 23 study of tax exemptions for nonprofit organizations. Both reports were updated from the September versions to reflect action taken at the September committee meeting.

The committee also reviewed and approved the following four bills as committee-requested bills:

- LC9502, amending the entitlement share payment for a Missoula tax increment financing district;

- LC9503, clarifying that certain class eight property tax adjustments are based on corporation license tax collections;
- LC9504, removing obsolete references to the repealed local government severance tax; and
- LC9505, repealing the taxable value decrease for certain industries that process Montana raw materials.

More information about the committee’s activities this interim is available on the committee website or by contacting Megan Moore, committee staff.

Committee Website: www.leg.mt.gov/rtic

Committee Staff: memoore@mt.gov or 406-444-4496

SAVA Finishes Pension Reviews

The State Administration and Veterans’ Affairs Interim Committee wrapped up the 2011-12 interim on Nov. 16 by completing its required review of the funding status of each of Montana’s 11 state and local government and school district retirement systems and by reviewing 23 proposals affecting several of these systems. The committee also reviewed a report on the history of pension legislation since the December 2005 special session and a list of alternatives that could be analyzed to provide needed funding to the retirement systems.

The committee is required to make a recommendation to the full Legislature on each of the pension proposals it reviews. Due to time constraints and political considerations, the committee voted to remain neutral on each of the proposals it reviewed. Budget Director Dan Villa had asked both SAVA and the Legislative Finance Committee to endorse Gov. Brian Schweitzer’s proposals to address funding shortfalls in the Teachers’ Retirement System and the Public Employees’ Retirement System. A committee motion to endorse the proposals failed on a tie vote. The Legislative Finance Committee also failed to endorse the proposals.

Also at its November meeting, the committee voted for one additional committee bill. LC 868 would eliminate the statutory requirement that the committee analyze all pension proposals submitted to it for review and make a recommendation on whether each proposal should be approved by the Legislature.

Figure 1
Summary of FY 2012 Actuarial Valuations

Retirement System	Funded Ratio (percentage)	Covered Payroll	ARC Shortfall (% payroll)	ARC Shortfall (covered payroll x ARC shortfall)	Amortization period (years)
Teachers'	59.24%	\$735,600,000	4.89%	\$35,970,840	does not amortize
Public Employees'	67.6%	\$1,081,288,177	6.53%	\$70,575,679	does not amortize
Sheriffs'	74.3%	\$59,582,678	5.85%	\$3,485,587	does not amortize
Game Wardens' & Peace Officers'	75.8%	\$38,316,733	3.64%	\$1,394,729	does not amortize
Highway Patrol	58%	\$13,513,915	5.78%	\$781,104	49.7
Municipal Police	55%	\$41,584,304	0%	-	25.7
Firefighters' Unified	61.8%	\$35,849,518	0%	-	16.4
Judges'	137%	\$6,192,316	0%	-	0
TOTAL				\$112,207,939	

Source: Compiled by Legislative Services Division from TRS and PERS Board FY 2012 Actuarial Valuations and Special Actuarial Calculation

Pension Funding Shortfalls

As part of its pension review, the committee received presentations from the retirement boards showing that, according to the Fiscal Year 2012 actuarial valuations, five retirement systems have liabilities that exceed what current contributions can pay for within an acceptable number of years. When the annual required contributions (ARC) paid into a retirement system are insufficient to pay the system's liabilities within a 30-year amortization period, there is an ARC shortfall. An ARC shortfall must be remedied with additional contributions in order for the system to remain solvent.

Scope of Problem

Figure 1, above, summarizes the FY 2012 actuarial valuation data for the eight main defined benefit plans for Montana's public employees. The funded ratio shown is the percent of the pension plan's benefit obligations that can be paid by current assets, if the plan had to pay all of its obligations now. A pension plan is considered fairly healthy if its funded ratio is at least 80 percent and the plan's obligations can be paid off in at least 30 years (generally, the span of an employee's working career) or less.

Why is There a Shortfall?

A shortfall is caused when the actuarial estimate of what contributions are needed now in order to pay future benefits comes up short, or if benefits are increased without also increasing contributions to pay for the increase. Actuarial assumptions are based on estimates about the plan's experience, such as how many years employees will work and contribute to the plan, how early an employee will retire, how long retir-

ees will live and be paid benefits, and most significantly, how much the contributions to the plan will earn in investment returns over time. The market crashes in recent history and the slow economic recovery has caused significant damage to the assets of the public employee retirement plans. Consequently, actuarial liabilities exist because market returns were significantly less than expected and, in some cases, because significant investment losses occurred. Although investment returns over a long period of time will tend to even out to the actuarially assumed average, the immediate solvency of a plan can be placed in jeopardy by such market stresses.

Whose Responsibility Is It?

Policymakers originally decided on a defined benefit plan design for the public employee retirement systems, adding a defined contribution plan in 1999. A defined benefit plan provides retirees with a guaranteed monthly benefit, based on a formula that takes into account an individual's highest average salary and years of service. Under this plan design, risk is pooled and managed in a way intended to mitigate short-term stresses. However, employers bear the ultimate risk under this type of plan. Some believe that the seriousness of the funding shortfalls and the economic crisis facing public employers justifies increasing contributions or cutting benefits for current employees or retirees. However, asking current employees or retirees to pay for these actuarial liabilities raises questions about contract impairment that could result in litigation.

How Much Will It Cost?

The committee asked for an analysis of costs based on a 30-year amortization schedule and a 40-year amortization schedule. It learned that the total increased funding required to bring the systems to a 30-year amortization period is about \$112 million annually, as shown in Figure 1 on page 8. Figure 2, below, shows costs for a 40-year amortization period. The costs shown in these figures are a total of all public employee payrolls for all employees in the listed retirement systems. Costs are first determined as a percentage of payroll, because the plans are funded by employer and employee contributions each pay period. Then, the cost may be converted to a dollar amount that will increase as salaries increase.

The actual cost to an individual school district, city, county, or state agency will depend on the employer's payroll for its employees who are covered in that system.

For example, if a county with employees in the Sheriffs' Retirement System had a covered payroll of \$500,000, the cost to that county for a 30-years amortization schedule would be 5.85 percent of that payroll (see Figure 1), or about \$28,000 a year, increasing as salary increases. To achieve a 40-year amortization schedule, the cost would be 4.97 percent of covered payroll (see Figure 2) or about \$25,000 a year, increasing as salaries increase. Legislative staff has access to the covered payroll as of June 30, 2012, for each employer participating in the Teachers' Retirement System and the Public Employees' Retirement System, so interested legislators may request the cost to individual jurisdictions under various funding scenarios.

If state policymakers wish to hold participating employers harmless for these costs, the Legislature would have to annually appropriate the total amount shown in either Figure 1 or Figure 2 to achieve either the 30-year amortization schedule or the 40-year amortization schedule.

Which Amortization Schedule Is Best?

A 30-year amortization schedule is the best practice under accounting standards. However, the recent crisis in financial markets has highlighted the inherent risks of long-term funding assumptions when significant financial stresses endanger short-term solvency. Thus, many analysts suggest a funding policy that either shortens this time frame or that at least uses lower investment return assumptions in the shorter term and sufficient funding to move pension systems to 100 percent funding. For Montana, however, this may be academic because it is difficult enough to achieve a 30-year amortization schedule, much less to reach 100 percent funding in the short term. The Montana Constitution requires that the public pensions be funded on an actuarially sound basis. At this point, actuaries still consider this to mean that the system's liabilities are being amortized over no more than 30 years.

A 40-year amortization schedule will be easier to achieve given fiscal realities. And it will at least put the pay off of the system's liabilities back on track. However, it will also mean that larger liabilities will have to be disclosed on balance sheets for public employers — potentially affecting bond ratings.

No Final Report

SAVA focused primarily on ethics standards for the Commissioner of Political Practices and on public employee pension systems during the recently completed interim. Legislative staff will not be preparing a final committee report. However, staff reports and materials from each meeting and on each area of the committee's work are available on the committee's website. More information also is available from Sheri Scurr, committee staff.

Committee Website: www.leg.mt.gov/sava

Committee Staff: sscurr@mt.gov or 406-444-3596

Figure 2
ARC Shortfall for 40-Year Amortization

Retirement System	40-yr Amortization ARC Shortfall (% of Payroll)	40-yr Amortization ARC Shortfall as Dollar Amount
Teachers'	3.05%	\$22,435,800
Public Employees'	5.32%	\$57,524,531
Sheriffs'	4.97%	\$2,961,259
Game Wardens' & Peace Officers'	3.07%	\$1,176,324
Highway Patrol Officers'	2.03%	\$274,332
Total		\$84,372,246

Source: Compiled by Legislative Services Division from TRS and PERS Board FY 2012 Actuarial Valuations and Special Actuarial Calculation

Trainings Slated for Bill-Tracking System

The Legislative Services Division will offer demonstrations of the online system for tracking legislation in December and January.

The Legislative Automated Workflow System, or LAWS, provides timely information before, during, and after a session, including up-to-date bill status, bill text, hearing schedules, agendas, journals, legislator information, and more. Users also may set up accounts that allow them to track specific bills as legislation makes its way through the process.

Two identical training sessions will be held on Dec. 6, at 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. The Jan. 3 session will begin at 10 a.m. All sessions will be held in Room 102 of the Capitol and last about two to two-and-a-half hours. Registration is not required.

The LAWS website for the 2013 session can be found at www.leg.mt.gov/laws.htm; it can also be accessed from the legislative branch homepage, www.leg.mt.gov.

Panels Propose More Than Six Dozen Bills

When the 2013 Legislature convenes in January, members will take up 74 bills recommended by interim and administrative committees over the past 18 months.

The bills stem from studies and other work undertaken by the legislative committees.

Eleven of the bills involved the committees' review of advisory councils and agency reports that have been created in law. The 2011 Legislature passed House Bill 142, which required each interim committee to review the advisory councils and reports for the agencies over which they have oversight responsibility. Those bills are described in detail in the Back Page article, beginning on Page 12.

The table below lists the remaining bills approved by the committees for introduction in the 2013 Legislature.

Children, Families, Health, and Human Services Interim Committee

- **LC 120** Appropriate funds to increase use of school breakfast program
- **LC 121** Appropriate funds for payment to Medicaid providers
- **LC 122** Appropriate TANF funds for out-of-school food programs
- **LC 240** Clarify insurance coverage of routine costs for patients in cancer clinical trials

- **LC 289** Require DPHHS to seek national accreditation of the state's child protective services
- **LC 290** Create Office of the Child and Family Ombudsman
- **LC 308** Revise confidentiality for child abuse and neglect reports
- **LC 309** Transfer funds to the Endowment for Children to support child abuse and neglect programs
- **LC 310** Revise laws relating to abuse and neglect at the Montana Developmental Center
- **LC 311** Allow review of maternal deaths

Economic Affairs Interim Committee

- **LC 351** Revise interim committee monitoring duties
- **LC 352** Revise termination date for required review of certain licensing boards
- **LC 353** Require workers' compensation coverage for volunteer firefighters

Education and Local Government Interim Committee

- **LC 182** Revise certain county budgeting deadlines

Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

- **LC 345** Revise renewable portfolio standard laws to include hydroelectric expansions
- **LC 346** Establish voting and transparency requirements for rural electric cooperatives
- **LC 347** Request interim study of impacts of the renewable portfolio standard

Environmental Quality Council

- **LC 363** Request interim study on Virginia City, Nevada City, and Reeder's Alley
- **LC 364** Create State Parks and Recreation Board

Law and Justice Interim Committee

- **LC 241** Revise involuntary commitment and emergency detention laws
- **LC 244** Allow restorative justice as a condition of suspended or deferred sentence
- **LC 245** Clarify restorative justice laws and establish grant program
- **LC 246** Require victim impact panels in certain correctional facilities
- **LC 247** Require disclosure of child abuse reports to law enforcement officers

- **LC 248** Create jail suicide prevention program in Board of Crime Control
- **LC 249** Create jail suicide prevention program in Department of Public Health and Human Services
- **LC 258** Require EQC eminent domain handbook be included in condemnation complaint
- **LC 300** Establish the Corrections Advisory Council
- **LC 325** Request interim study to abolish, continue, or revise the Board of Pardons and Parole
- **LC 631** Establish statewide re-entry task force for paroled offenders
- **LC 733** Revise confidential criminal justice information and concealed weapon laws

Legislative Council

- **LC 322** Request interim study of K-12 school funding
- **LC 324** Repeal legislative internship program

Legislative Finance Committee

- **LC 157** Provide statutory appropriation for lottery vendor fees
- **LC 172** Revise community college funding formula
- **LC 299** Revise laws regarding reporting to the Legislative Finance Committee
- **LC 328** Generally revise statutory appropriation laws
- **LC 329** Clarify general fund transfers to the Research and Commercialization Account

Revenue and Transportation Interim Committee

- **LC 110** Revise penalty and interest provisions related to tax law enforcement
- **LC 398** Revise property tax appraisal laws
- **LC 933** Repeal business equipment tax reduction for value-added manufacturing
- **LC 934** Remove statutory references to local government severance tax
- **LC 935** Clarify laws related to property tax adjustments
- **LC 936** Revise tax increment financing laws related to distribution

Select Committee on Efficiency in Government

- **LC 123** Create a pay-for-performance pilot project for Medicaid children's mental health services
- **LC 124** Require DPHHS to measure outcomes for children's mental health services

- **LC 125** Revise presumptive eligibility requirements for mental health crisis stabilization services
- **LC 150** Revise Medicaid application process
- **LC 151** Establish penalty for transfer of assets related to Medicaid eligibility
- **LC 259** Request interim study on state/local government electronic records management
- **LC 260** Clarify authority of local governments to store electronic records off site
- **LC 261** Revise statutory requirements for notarization of certain documents
- **LC 348** Increase Medicaid reimbursement rates for certain children's mental health services
- **LC 349** Create advisory committee for reimbursement of certain Medicaid mental health services

State Administration and Veterans' Affairs Interim Committee

- **LC 189** Request interim study of structure/duties of Office of Commissioner of Political Practices
- **LC 335** Clarify adoption of model codes, rules, and publications by reference in administrative rules
- **LC 358** Require legislative appropriation for expenditures involving state group benefits
- **LC 359** Revise ethics violation laws for Commissioner of Political Practices
- **LC 868** Revise statutory duties of State Administration and Veterans' Affairs Interim Committee

State-Tribal Relations Interim Committee

- **LC 446** Require consideration of guiding principles for decisions with tribal implications

Water Policy Interim Committee

- **LC 354** Clarify taxation and ownership of river channel following avulsion
- **LC 355** Define combined appropriation of water for exempt wells
- **LC 356** Establish stream depletion zones for exempt wells

The bills will be assigned formal bill numbers as they are introduced. They can be tracked in the Legislative Automated Workflow System (LAWS) throughout the session using either those numbers or the LC number under which they were requested.

The online system is available at www.leg.mt.gov/laws.htm.

The Back Page

HB 142 Results in Proposals for Change

by Hope Stockwell
Research Analyst

Through passage of House Bill 142, the 2011 Legislature tasked legislative interim committees with reviewing the statutorily required reports and advisory councils of their assigned agencies and making recommendations regarding the retention or elimination of each report or council to the next legislature.

Because numerous agency advisory councils, boards, committees, commissions, and citizen panels known by other names also exist in statute, an initial staff guideline suggested that interim committees focus on the 38 entities specifically called an “advisory council” in the Montana Code Annotated.

Executive agencies, the governor, and other statewide elected officials also have the authority to establish advisory councils as deemed necessary pursuant to 2-15-122, MCA. Some legislative interim committees opted to review councils created by this means; others did not.

Interim committees determined the scope of their HB 142 review on an individual basis in consideration with other statutory duties, assigned studies, priorities, and interests. In all, the 2011-2012 interim committees reviewed 55 advisory councils and citizen panels and 84 agency reports. Of those, the committees recommended that four advisory councils and eight reports be eliminated and that statutes regarding two advisory councils and seven reports be amended.

This article summarizes the work and recommendations of each committee.

Children, Families, Health, and Human Services Interim Committee

The Children, Families, Health, and Human Services Interim Committee oversees the Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS) and identified 18 related advisory councils, coalitions, boards, and committees for review:

Advisory Council on Aging
Advisory Council on Food Safety
Board of Public Assistance
Child Support Enforcement Advisory Board*
Children’s System of Care Planning Committee
Children’s Trust Fund Board
Commission on Provider Rates and Services*
Committee on Telecommunications Access Services
Community Health Center Advisory Group*
Medicaid Managed Care Advisory Council*
Mental Health Oversight Advisory Council

Montana 2-1-1 Community Coalition*
Montana Health Coalition
Regional Trauma Care Committees
Service Area Authorities
Tobacco Prevention Advisory Board*
Trauma Care Committee
Traumatic Brain Injury Advisory Council

In addition, DPHHS is required by law to submit 12 different reports to the Legislature. The reports cover topics ranging from suicide prevention to Medicaid to details on the placement of children with mental health needs in out-of-state treatment facilities.

Information provided to the committee indicated that several of the councils have been inactive in recent years (noted by an asterisk in the list above). Several reports also have not been provided to the Legislature. The reasons for the inaction varied for both the councils and the reports. In some instances, the underlying reason for creating a council no longer existed. In others, the department was waiting for council members to provide direction on council activities.

DPHHS recommended that the statutory requirements for three councils — the Child Support Enforcement Advisory Board, Montana 2-1-1 Community Coalition, and Community Health Center Advisory Council — be repealed because the groups have been inactive. The agency also recommended repeal of:

- the Advisory Council on Food Safety because it is not being used as intended; and
- the requirements for the Mental Health Oversight Advisory Council and the Children’s System of Care Planning Committee. DPHHS said it would instead create one board to provide public input on both adult and children’s mental health matters.

Finally, DPHHS suggested that requirements for seven of the 12 reports be eliminated and that information related to the items be presented to the Legislature in another manner. The agency recommended eliminating the following reports:

- Trauma Care System Report, 50-6-402, MCA. DPHHS said it is unaware of anyone requesting the report or taking any action as a result of the report.
- report on expenditures made from the Older Montanans Trust Fund, 52-3-115, MCA. DPHHS said the trust fund

has not been funded as originally contemplated so no expenditures have been made from it. DPHHS also said the statute is unclear on whether the agency must provide the report to each Legislature or provide the report only if expenditures are made from the trust fund.

- report on mental health services for children with serious emotional disturbance, 53-21-1002, MCA. DPHHS said legislators do not appear to be using the report.
- Suicide Reduction Plan, 53-21-1102, MCA. DPHHS recommended this plan be produced every five years with a biennial update of statistics and data.
- report on Community Health Center grants, 50-4-805, MCA. DPHHS said the report is not needed because the Legislature has not appropriated funds for the grant program since 2007 and the advisory group is inactive.
- report on the Statewide 2-1-1 Calling System, 53-1-714, MCA. DPHHS said it coordinated a group of local 2-1-1 call center providers between 2005 and 2007 to create the last report on this issue. The 2007 Legislature took no further action to fund the project but did not change or repeal the statute. DPHHS said it has not been contacted by anyone about additional work on 2-1-1 since the last report was submitted.
- report on the Prescription Drug Plus Discount Program, 53-6-1005, MCA. DPHHS said this one-time-only report was made in September 2006 and could be eliminated without any effect.

At its June 2012 meeting, the committee decided against introducing any HB 142-related legislation. Some members suggested that DPHHS was in a better position to determine which advisory councils and reports were unnecessary. They noted that the agency could propose legislation of its own to accomplish any desired changes.

More information about the committee's work is available at www.leg.mt.gov/cfhhs.

Economic Affairs Interim Committee

The Economic Affairs Interim Committee (EAIC) has monitoring responsibility over the following state agencies: the departments of Agriculture, Commerce, Labor and Industry, and Livestock. The EAIC also monitors the Governor's Office of Economic Development, the State Auditor's Office, and the Montana State Fund.

For its HB 142 review, the EAIC identified eight statutory advisory councils:

Advisory Council on Continuing Education for Insurance Licensees
Advisory Council on Risk Management Activities

Economic Development Advisory Council
Montana Noxious Weed Seed Free Forage Advisory Council
Noxious Weed Management Advisory Council
Organic Commodity Advisory Council
Tourism Advisory Council
Montana Heritage Preservation and Development Commission

The only advisory council that raised an issue for the EAIC was one that had not yet met but also has not been created because it is to be established only if a competitive market for medical malpractice insurance doesn't exist. After requesting that a bill draft be made available for review, the committee took public comment and decided not to introduce any changes to the 2005 statute that provides for creation of that advisory council.

The EAIC also reviewed 15 agency reporting requirements, although some reports were not yet published. At the committee's September 2012 meeting, members said the agency reports were informative and helpful to legislators and made a blanket recommendation to retain all of the reporting requirements.

More information about the committee's work is available at www.leg.mt.gov/eaic.

Education and Local Government Interim Committee

The Education and Local Government Interim Committee (ELG) provides legislative monitoring of the State Board of Education, the Board of Public Education, the Board of Regents of Higher Education, the Office of Public Instruction, and the entities that are administratively attached to those agencies, including the Montana Historical Society, the Montana Arts Council, and the Montana State Library Commission.

In its HB 142 work, the ELG identified four advisory councils for review:

Certification Standards and Practices Advisory Council
Governor's Postsecondary Scholarship Advisory Council
Fire Services Training Advisory Council
Student Loan Advisory Council

Staff of the Office of the Commissioner of Higher Education and members of the Student Loan Advisory Council recommended that council's elimination. As a result, the ELG forwarded LC 184 to the 2013 Legislature.

In response to the eight agency reports reviewed by the ELG, the committee drafted LC 183, asking the Legislature to

eliminate the following reporting requirements for the Office of Public Instruction:

- At-Risk Students Report, 20-9-328, MCA. OPI provided the report in September 2010, and the statute indicates that this was intended to be a one-time-only report.
- American Indian Achievement Gap Report, 20-9-330, MCA. OPI provided the report in the fall of 2010, and the statute indicates that this was intended to be a one-time-only report.
- Biennial Report of the Superintendent of Public Instruction, 20-3-105, MCA. The superintendent's preparation of the report is discretionary.

More information about the committee's work is available at www.leg.mt.gov/elgic.

Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee

The Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee has oversight of the Public Service Commission (PSC), to which no advisory councils are attached. The PSC is also not required to provide any specific reports to the ETIC, but there are four reports the ETIC is required to review each interim:

- Universal Service Benefits (USB) reports from utilities, rural electric cooperatives, and large customers. The committee must also review the USB program in its entirety, 69-8-402, MCA.
- Montana Bureau of Mines and Geology geothermal research update and funding report, 90-3-1301, MCA;
- Department of Natural Resources and Conservation update on the economic and environmental feasibility of constructing and operating potential small-scale hydro-electric power generating facilities on state water projects, 85-1-501, MCA; and
- Renewable Energy Credit use reports from most Montana utilities, competitive electricity suppliers, and owners of electrical generation facilities operating in Montana, 69-3-2009, MCA.

The ETIC was established in 2003, and these reports are all relatively new. The ETIC will receive the Renewable Energy Credit use reports for the first time in 2013. The committee discussed each of the four reports this interim and agreed that each should be retained.

More information about the reports reviewed by the ETIC is available at www.leg.mt.gov/etic.

Environmental Quality Council

The Environmental Quality Council has statutory oversight of the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ), the

Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks (FWP), and the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation (DNRC).

The EQC opted to review only advisory councils that were specifically named as such in statute. DEQ and FWP each have four advisory councils:

Water and Wastewater Operators' Advisory Council
Air Pollution Control Advisory Council
Water Pollution Control Advisory Council
Small Business Compliance Assistance Advisory Council
Wetlands Protection Advisory Council
Boating Advisory Council
Upland Game Bird Citizens' Advisory Council
Alternative Livestock Advisory Council

Upon recommendations from the agencies, the EQC opted to draft bills that would eliminate the:

- Alternative Livestock Advisory Council (LC 360). FWP said the council has become obsolete with the passage of I-143 in 2000, prohibiting the transfer or issuance of new alternative livestock ranch licenses; and
- Air Pollution Control Advisory Council (LC 361), which DEQ describes as ineffective due to the complex nature of air regulatory issues. DEQ said it favors streamlining stakeholder involvement through the Montana Administrative Procedure Act and the Clean Air Act Advisory Committee.

The EQC also reviewed 17 agency reports but recommended the elimination of only one. LC 362 would eliminate the requirement that DNRC report on progress to designate wildland-urban interface parcels. That work has been completed.

More information about the Council's work is available at www.leg.mt.gov/eqc.

Law and Justice Interim Committee

The Law and Justice Interim Committee (LJIC) monitors the activities of the Department of Corrections, the Department of Justice (DOJ), the Office of State Public Defender, the Judicial Branch, and the entities attached to these agencies, including the Board of Crime Control and the Board of Pardons and Parole.

The LJIC reviewed 13 reports and identified seven existing advisory councils:

Fire Prevention and Investigation Advisory Council
Domestic Violence Fatality Review Commission
Gaming Advisory Council
Criminal Intelligence Information Advisory Council
Youth Justice Advisory Council

Concealed Weapons Advisory Council
District Court Council

As a result of its review, the LJIC made several recommendations through the following bill drafts:

- LC 242 would affect advisory councils and reports affiliated with DOJ by eliminating the Fire Prevention and Investigation Advisory Council, clarifying the duties of the Domestic Violence Fatality Review Commission, and eliminating the requirement for a cigarette standards report;
- LC 243 would eliminate the racial profiling report also currently required of DOJ;
- LC 301 would eliminate the Judicial Branch's report on expenditures of attorney license tax revenue;
- LC 302 would eliminate the Board of Pardons and Parole's report on medical parolee health care costs; and
- LC 444 would update statutes related to the Criminal Intelligence Information Advisory Council.

The committee proposed one more bill draft, LC 300, which would create a Corrections Advisory Council. In 2011, Gov. Brian Schweitzer dissolved a similar council that was established under executive authority pursuant to 2-15-122, MCA.

More information on the committee's work is available at www.leg.mt.gov/ljic.

Revenue and Transportation Interim Committee

The Revenue and Transportation Interim Committee (RTIC) has legislative oversight of the Department of Revenue (DOR) and the Department of Transportation. Both agencies are required to submit a variety of reports to the RTIC.

In developing its work plan, the RTIC determined most of its related agency reports fell outside the scope of HB 142's requirements. While still receiving those other reports, the RTIC reviewed only one report under the auspices of HB 142 — the Department of Revenue's biennial report, which is required by 15-1-205, MCA.

The RTIC also reviewed two advisory councils:

Advisory Council for the Scenic-Historic Byways Program

Multistate Tax Compact Advisory Council

In its HB 142 review, the RTIC determined both advisory councils and the DOR's biennial report should be retained and did not propose any legislation to alter their statutory requirements.

More information on the committee's work is available at www.leg.mt.gov/rtic.

State Administration and Veterans' Affairs Interim Committee

The State Administration and Veterans' Affairs Interim Committee (SAVA) monitors the activities of the Department of Administration, the Department of Military Affairs, the Office of the Secretary of State, the Office of the Commissioner of Political Practices, the Board of Veterans Affairs, the Teachers' Retirement Board, and the Public Employees' Retirement Board.

SAVA identified seven advisory councils for review:

State Employee Group Benefits Advisory Council
Capitol Complex Advisory Council
Electronic Government Advisory Council
Information Technology Board
9-1-1 Advisory Council
Land Information Advisory Council
Employee Investment Advisory Council

SAVA agreed that all seven councils should be retained.

In addition, SAVA reviewed 14 agency reports and made recommendations in LC 334 to revise several of those reporting requirements, as follows:

- requiring the Capitol Complex Advisory Council to report to SAVA by Sept. 15 of the year immediately preceding a legislative session;
- requiring the Employee Incentive Program Report to be made to SAVA by Sept. 15 of the year immediately preceding a legislative session;
- revising the content of the Veterans' Affairs Division biennial report;
- requiring the Secretary of State to make a secured transactions report to SAVA by Sept. 15 of the year immediately preceding a legislative session only if there are changes to filing office rules;
- requiring the Teachers' Retirement System experience study to be conducted and reported to SAVA and the Legislature;
- requiring that a copy of actuarial valuations of each of the public pension systems be made available to the Legislature; and
- requiring the Board of Investments to present an annual report to SAVA by Sept. 15 of the year immediately preceding a legislative session.

More information about this committee's work is available at www.leg.mt.gov/sava.

Calendar of Legislative Events

All interim committee meetings are held in the Capitol in Helena unless otherwise noted.

December 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
2	3 Rules Committee Training, Rm 10, 8:30 a.m. Joint Rules Committee, Rm 102, 10 a.m. House Rules Committee, Rm 102, upon adjournment of Joint Rules Committee Senate Rules Committee, Rm 137, upon adjournment of Joint Rules Committee Presiding Officer Training, Rm 152, 1:30 p.m.	4 House Appropriations Committee Training, Rm 102, 9 a.m. Leadership Orientation (Canceled)	5	6 LAWS Demonstration, Rm 102, 9 a.m. & 1 p.m.	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19 Districting & Apportionment Commission, Rm 172, 2 p.m.	20 Legislative Audit Committee, Rm 172, Time TBA	21	22
23 /30	24 /31	25	26	27	28	29

63rd Legislature - 2013 Session Calendar

Please note: Legislative leadership holds the authority to further revise the schedule, including the days the Legislature meets and the proposed breaks.

January 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 New Year's Day	2	3 LAWS Demonstration, Rm 102, 10 a.m.	4	5
6	7 Leg Day 1 Legislature Convenes, noon	8 Leg Day 2	9 Leg Day 3	10 Leg Day 4	11 Leg Day 5	12 Leg Day 6
13	14 Leg Day 7	15 Leg Day 8	16 Leg Day 9	17 Leg Day 10	18 Leg Day 11	19 Leg Day 12 Last day to request General Bills
20	21 Leg Day 13	22 Leg Day 14	23 Leg Day 15	24 Leg Day 16	25 Leg Day 17 Last day to request Revenue Bills	26 Leg Day 18
27	28 Leg Day 19	29 Leg Day 20	30 Leg Day 21	31 Leg Day 22		

February 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Leg Day 23	2 Leg Day 24
3	4 Leg Day 25	5 Leg Day 26	6 Leg Day 27	7 Leg Day 28	8 Leg Day 29	9 Leg Day 30
10	11 Leg Day 31	12 Leg Day 32	13 Leg Day 33	14 Leg Day 34	15 Leg Day 35	16 Leg Day 36 Last day for Committee to request General Bills
17	18 Leg Day 37	19 Leg Day 38	20 Leg Day 39	21 Leg Day 40	22 Leg Day 41	23 Leg Day 42
24	25 Leg Day 43	26 Leg Day 44	27 Leg Day 45 Transmittal of General Bills to other Chamber	28 Transmittal Break		

March 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Transmittal Break	2 Transmittal Break
3 Transmittal Break	4 Leg Day 46	5 Leg Day 47	6 Leg Day 48	7 Leg Day 49	8 Leg Day 50	9 Leg Day 51
10 Daylight Savings Time begins	11 Leg Day 52	12 Leg Day 53	13 Leg Day 54	14 Leg Day 55	15 Leg Day 56	16 Leg Day 57
17	18 Leg Day 58	19 Leg Day 59	20 Leg Day 60 Transmittal of Revenue-Estimating Joint Resolution	21 Leg Day 61	22 Leg Day 62 Last day to request Bills Proposing Referendums or for Committee to request Revenue Bills	23 Leg Day 63
24	25 Leg Day 64	26 Leg Day 65	27 Leg Day 66	28 Leg Day 67 Transmittal of Appropriation Bills	29 Break	30 Break
31 Easter						

April 2013

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Break	2 Leg Day 68	3 Leg Day 69	4 Leg Day 70	5 Leg Day 71 Transmittal of Revenue Bills and Bills Proposing Referendums	6 Leg Day 72
7	8 Leg Day 73 Transmittal of amendments to General Bills	9 Leg Day 74	10 Leg Day 75 Last day to request Study Resolutions or Committee Bills to implement HB 2	11 Leg Day 76	12 Leg Day 77	13 Leg Day 78
14	15 Leg Day 79	16 Leg Day 80 Transmittal of amendments to Appropriation Bills	17 Leg Day 81	18 Leg Day 82 Transmittal of amendments to Revenue Bills, Revenue-Estimating Joint Resolutions, and Bills Proposing Referendums	19 Leg Day 83	20 Leg Day 84
21	22 Leg Day 85 Transmittal of Interim Study Resolutions	23 Leg Day 86	24 Leg Day 87	25 Leg Day 88	26 Leg Day 89	27 Leg Day 90
28	29	30				

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