

**PUBLIC COMMENT- SUBCOMMITTEE A**

**THURSDAY 12-31-2020**

Details:

Bill: HB-2\_JGH\_2021-01-02-08-00

Position: Proponent

Representing an Entity/Another Person: No

Organization: N/A

Name: Alysa Semans

Email: [asemans@mt.gov](mailto:asemans@mt.gov)

Phone: (406) 461-8328

City, State: Helena, MT

Written Statement: test

Files: Test (2).pdf (DOCUMENT WAS BLANK)

Testify via Zoom: Yes

Zoom Method: Computer

Details:

Bill: HB-2: Status testing for the bill draft (JGH - 2021-01-02 08:00 AM)

Position: Proponent

Representing an Entity/Another Person: Yes

Organization:

Name: Thomas J Castona

Email: [tcastona@gmail.com](mailto:tcastona@gmail.com)

Phone: (406) 202-1559

City, State: HELENA

Written Statement: aa

Files:

Testify via Zoom: No

Zoom Method: N/A

Details:

Bill: HB-2: Status testing for the bill draft (JGH - 2021-01-02 08:00 AM)

Position: Proponent

Representing an Entity/Another Person: No

Organization: N/A

Name: Thomas Castona

Email: [tcastona@mt.gov](mailto:tcastona@mt.gov)

Phone: (406) 444-4470

City, State: Helena

Written Statement: dagga

Files:

Testify via Zoom: Yes

Zoom Method: Phone

TUESDAY 1-5-2021

Details:

Bill: HB-2: General Appropriations Act (JGH - 2021-01-07 08:00 AM)

Position: Informational Witness

Representing an Entity/Another Person: No

Organization: N/A

Name: Cindy Trimp

Email: [CindyTrimp@mt.gov](mailto:CindyTrimp@mt.gov)

Phone: (406) 444-5408

City, State: Helena

Written Statement: Informational Witness on Behalf Department of Agriculture

Files:

Testify via Zoom: No

Zoom Method: N/A

Details:

Bill: HB-2: General Appropriations Act (JGH - 2021-01-07 08:00 AM)

Position: Proponent

Representing an Entity/Another Person: Yes

Organization: disability rights montana

Name: Beth Brenneman

Email: [beth@disabilityrightsmt.org](mailto:beth@disabilityrightsmt.org)

Phone: (406) 431-1433

City, State: helena

Written Statement: we support the bill

Files:

Testify via Zoom: Yes

Zoom Method: Computer

Details:

Bill: HB-2: General Appropriations Act (JGH - 2021-01-07 08:00 AM)

Position: Informational Witness

Representing an Entity/Another Person: Yes

Organization: Montana Wildlife Federation

Name: Frank Szollosi

Email: [frank@mtwf.org](mailto:frank@mtwf.org)

Phone: (406) 417-9909

City, State: Helena, Montana

Written Statement: Good morning. I'm interested in participating in the introductory Joint Budget subcommittee hearing on Monday, Jan. 11th at 9:00am MT as well as the Senate Fish and Game hearing on Tuesday, Jan. 5th at 3:00pm, if the Chairman will permit comments from the public. I will provide written comments as well to Robert Miller and Jason Mohr respectively. Thank you. Frank

Files:

Testify via Zoom: Yes

Zoom Method: Computer

## WEDNESDAY 1-6-2021

### Details:

Bill: HB-2: General Appropriations Act (H) Joint Appropriations Subcommittee on General Government - 2021-01-07  
08:00 AM

Position: Informational Witness

Representing an Entity/Another Person: No

Organization: N/A

Name: Marie Matthews

Email: [mmatthews@mt.gov](mailto:mmatthews@mt.gov)

Phone: (406) 444-4084

City, State: Helena

Written Statement: introduction

Files:

Testify via Zoom: No

Zoom Method: N/A

### Details:

Bill: HB-2: General Appropriations Act (H) Joint Appropriations Subcommittee on General Government - 2021-01-07  
08:00 AM

Position: Proponent

Representing an Entity/Another Person: Yes

Organization: Montana Budget & Policy Center

Name: Heather O'Loughlin

Email: [holoughlin@montanabudget.org](mailto:holoughlin@montanabudget.org)

Phone: (406) 868-3438

City, State: Helena, MT

Written Statement: MBPC supports HB 2.

Files:

Testify via Zoom: Yes

Zoom Method: Computer

## FRIDAY 1-8-2021

### Details:

Bill: HB-2: General Appropriations Act (H) Joint Appropriations Subcommittee on General Government - 2021-01-11  
09:00 AM

Position: Proponent

Representing an Entity/Another Person: Yes

Organization: MFPE

Name: Sarah Piper

Email: [spiper@mfpe.org](mailto:spiper@mfpe.org)

Phone: (406) 544-3077

City, State: East Helena, MT

Written Statement: I am here today on behalf of MFPE members, including those employees in the State Auditor's Office, as a proponent of HB2. The State Auditor's employees work diligently to ensure the integrity and accountability of insurance and investments, looking out for Montana's citizens. The budget under your consideration will allow the State Auditor's Office to achieve this purpose on behalf of taxpayers. We would ask you to consider decreasing the vacancy savings for this office, as it is a small workforce and achieving cost reduction

through attrition is burdensome. We advocate for the full funding for the department so that it can continue to provide quality services and ask your support of this legislation. Thank you for your time.

Files:

Testify via Zoom: Yes

Zoom Method: Computer

## TUESDAY 1-12-2021

Details:

Bill: HB-2: General Appropriations Act 2021-01-15 08:00 AM - (H) Joint Appropriations Subcommittee on General Government

Position: Opponent

Representing an Entity/Another Person: Yes

Organization: MFPE

Name: Sarah Piper

Email: [spiper@mfpe.org](mailto:spiper@mfpe.org)

Phone: (406) 544-3077

City, State: East Helena, MT

Written Statement: I am here today on behalf of MFPE members who work for the Montana State Lottery, as an opponent of this portion of HB2. State Lottery employees work diligently to ensure the smooth functioning of the lottery; since 2019, they have been asked to take on sports betting as well. This has been adding greatly to their workload, without any additional FTE being provided. Even once sports betting is fully rolled out, this will add roughly 50% to the workload for a lotto sales rep, which flows out and creates an extra workload for all other lottery employees as well.

To be frank, the lottery is a revenue boon to the state. But that revenue only flows smoothly because of the hard work the Lottery employees do to ensure that Montana businesses have the necessary tools to administer the lottery. Proposing any vacancy savings in this department runs counter to the goal of revenue generation; especially at a time when major tax cuts are being proposed, along with a strong ending fund balance, any reduction to this agency is unwarranted.

The budget under your consideration will hinder the Montana State Lottery in carrying out its work. We would ask you to consider removing the vacancy savings for this office, as it is a small workforce that is already being tasked with performing additional revenue-generating work without any relief being provided in additional FTE. We advocate for the full funding for the department so that it can continue to provide quality services. Thank you for your time.

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Testify via Zoom: Yes

Zoom Method: Computer

Details:

Bill: HB-2: General Appropriations Act 2021-01-14 08:00 AM - (H) Joint Appropriations Subcommittee on General Government

Position: Proponent

Representing an Entity/Another Person: Yes

Organization: MT Budget & Policy Center

Name: Heather O'Loughlin

Email: [holoughlin@montanabudget.org](mailto:holoughlin@montanabudget.org)

Phone: (406) 868-3438

City, State: Helena

Written Statement: MBPC supports HB 2.

Files:

Testify via Zoom: Yes  
Zoom Method: Computer

Details:

Bill: HB-2: General Appropriations Act 2021-01-15 08:00 AM - (H) JAS on General Government

Position: Informational Witness

Representing an Entity/Another Person: No

Organization: N/A

Name: Skye Gilham

Email: [skygogriz@hotmail.com](mailto:skygogriz@hotmail.com)

Phone: (406) 450-8462

City, State: Cut Bank, Montana

Written Statement: Serving as informational witness for the Burial Preservation Board, which is located in the Director's Office budget presentation for the Department of Administration.

Files:

Testify via Zoom: Yes

Zoom Method: Computer

**FRIDAY 1-15-2021**

Details:

Bill: HB-2: General Appropriations Act 2021-01-18 09:00 AM - (H) JAS on General Government

Position: Proponent

Representing an Entity/Another Person: Yes

Organization: Montana's Credit Unions

Name: Karen C Smith

Email: [karen@mcun.coop](mailto:karen@mcun.coop)

Phone: (406) 324-7376

City, State: Helena, MT

Written Statement: Mr. Chairman, members of the Committee, my name is Karen Smith. I am the Chief Advocacy Officer for Montana's Credit Unions, the trade association representing Montana's 46 credit unions serving over 412,000 credit union members. Ten of the credit unions in Montana are state chartered and under the oversight of the Montana Division of Banking and Financial Institutions. These state-chartered credit unions have over \$3,290,800,000 in assets, which is over half of the credit union assets in the state.

The Montana Division of Banking and Financial Institutions ensures the safety and soundness of financial institutions across the state. Currently, the funding for the Division comes from licensing fees and assessment charged to the financial institutions, and not the general fund. Now, more than ever, during the pandemic, having access to the Commissioner and the Division's examiners' expertise, knowledge and resources is critical. The Division has been extraordinarily valuable in supporting and guiding our credit unions to provide critical financing and Paycheck Protection Program loans to Montana businesses.

We support of the Division's proposed budget, with no amendment and strongly urge a due pass.

Files: Div\_FI\_Budget\_Testimony.pdf

Testify via Zoom: Yes

Zoom Method: Computer



January 15, 2021

TO: Members of House Judiciary

FROM: Karen Smith, Montana's Credit Unions

SUBJECT: Joint Subcommittee on General Government – Written Testimony for Montana Division of Banking and Financial Institutions Budget

Mr. Chairman, members of the Committee, my name is Karen Smith. I am the Chief Advocacy Officer for Montana's Credit Unions, the trade association representing Montana's 46 credit unions serving over 412,000 credit union members. Ten of the credit unions in Montana are state chartered and under the oversight of the Montana Division of Banking and Financial Institutions. These state-chartered credit unions have over \$3,290,800,000 in assets, which is over half of the credit union assets in the state.

The Montana Division of Banking and Financial Institutions ensures the safety and soundness of financial institutions across the state. Currently, the funding for the Division comes from licensing fees and assessment charged to the financial institutions, and not the general fund. Now, more than ever, during the pandemic, having access to the Commissioner and the Division's examiners' expertise, knowledge and resources is critical. The Division has been extraordinarily valuable in supporting and guiding our credit unions to provide critical financing and Paycheck Protection Program loans to Montana businesses.

We support of the Division's proposed budget, with no amendment and strongly urge a due pass.

BY: Karen Smith, Chief Advocacy Officer  
Montana Credit Union Network  
(406) 324-7376  
[Karen@mcun.coop](mailto:Karen@mcun.coop)



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#### Details:

Bill: HB-2: General Appropriations Act 2021-01-18 09:00 AM - (H) JAS on General Government

Position: Proponent

Representing an Entity/Another Person: Yes

Organization: Montana Bankers Association

Name: Cary A Hegreberg

Email: [cary@montanabankers.com](mailto:cary@montanabankers.com)

Phone: (406) 439-4163

City, State: Helena

Written Statement: I wish to testify in support of the budget for Division of Banking and Financial Institutions.

Files:

Testify via Zoom: Yes

Zoom Method: Computer

**SATURDAY 1-16-2021**

Details:

Bill: HB-2: General Appropriations Act 2021-01-18 09:00 AM - (H) JAS on General Government

Position: Proponent

Representing an Entity/Another Person: No

Organization: N/A

Name: Chris Puyear

Email: [chrisp@strategies360.com](mailto:chrisp@strategies360.com)

Phone: (406) 431-2499

City, State: Helena, MT

Written Statement: Chris Puyear on behalf of Montana Independent Bankers Association.

Files:

Testify via Zoom: Yes

Zoom Method: Computer

**MONDAY 1-18-2021**

Details:

Bill: HB-2: General Appropriations Act 2021-01-19 08:00 AM - (H) JAS on General Government

Position: Informational Witness

Representing an Entity/Another Person: Yes

Organization: Legislative Services Division

Name: Susan Fox

Email: [sfox@mt.gov](mailto:sfox@mt.gov)

Phone: (406) 444-3066

City, State: Helena, MT

Written Statement: I am Executive Director for the Legislative Services Division and will be available to answer any questions regarding Program 20 - Legislative services and Program 21 - Legislative Committees and Activities.

Files:

Testify via Zoom: Yes

Zoom Method: Computer

Details:

Bill: HB-2: General Appropriations Act 2021-01-20 08:00 AM - (H) JAS on General Government

Position: Proponent

Representing an Entity/Another Person: Yes

Organization: MFPE

Name: Sarah Piper

Email: [spiper@mfpe.org](mailto:spiper@mfpe.org)

Phone: (406) 544-3077

City, State: East Helena, MT

Written Statement: We advocate for the full funding for the Montana Youth Challenge so that it can continue to provide quality services. We ask your support of this legislation. Thank you for your time.

Files:

Testify via Zoom: Yes

Zoom Method: Computer

Details:

Bill: HB-2: General Appropriations Act 2021-01-21 08:00 AM - (H) JAS on General Government

Position: Proponent

Representing an Entity/Another Person: Yes

Organization: MFPE

Name: Sarah Piper

Email: [spiper@mfpe.org](mailto:spiper@mfpe.org)

Phone: (406) 544-3077

City, State: East Helena, MT

Written Statement: We advocate for the full funding for the Dept. of Revenue so that it can continue to provide quality services, and we ask your support of this legislation. Thank you for your time.

Files:

Testify via Zoom: Yes

Zoom Method: Computer

Details:

Bill: HB-2: General Appropriations Act 2021-01-21 08:00 AM - (H) JAS on General Government

Position: Proponent

Representing an Entity/Another Person: Yes

Organization: MFPE

Name: Sarah Piper

Email: [spiper@mfpe.org](mailto:spiper@mfpe.org)

Phone: (406) 544-3077

City, State: East Helena, MT

Written Statement: We advocate for the full funding for the Dept. of Revenue so that it can continue to provide quality services, and we ask your support of this legislation. Thank you for your time.

Files:

Testify via Zoom: Yes

Zoom Method: Computer