

Truth to Power

Speaking to Public Policy
from the perspective of conscience and convictions
to increase the common good.



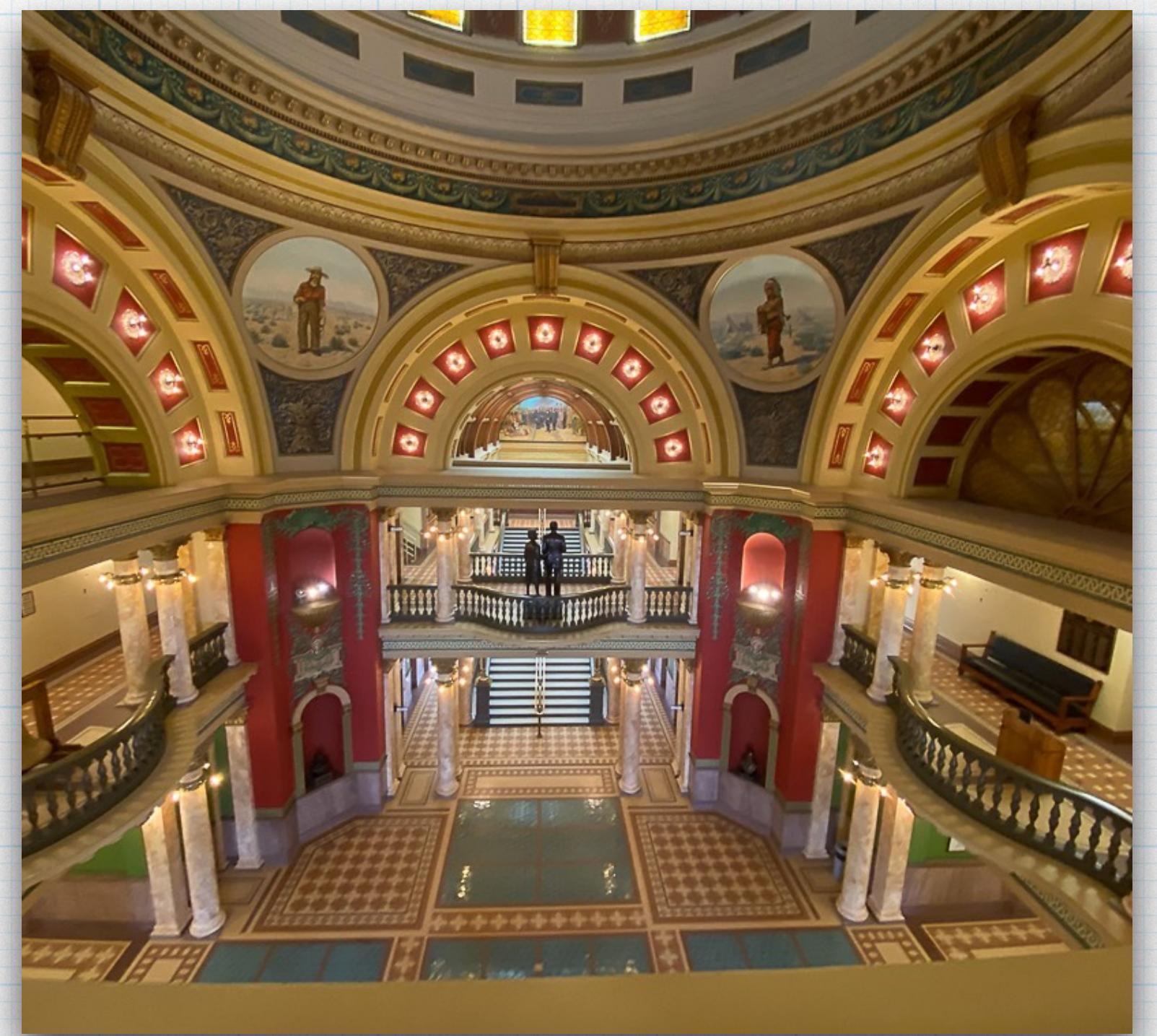
Truth to Power
Speaking to Public Policy
in Montana

We share a deep commitment to justice, equality and neighborly love.

Truth to Power is a group of Montanans who speak to public policy from the perspective of conscience and convictions to increase the common good.

Legislative Committees

- Session Committees
- **Interim Committees**
- Budget Committees
- Ad Hoc Committees
- and more.



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Overview of legislative committees

In session committees and **interim committees** deal with a particular issue area.

All the members are assigned by majority leadership although legislators may request certain committees through their own party leaders , but are assigned by majority leadership.

Chairperson and vice chair persons are designated by majority party leadership. A few committees which are created by law or constitution may have a different protocol. Having the majority is very powerful, thus the importance of every single legislative election.

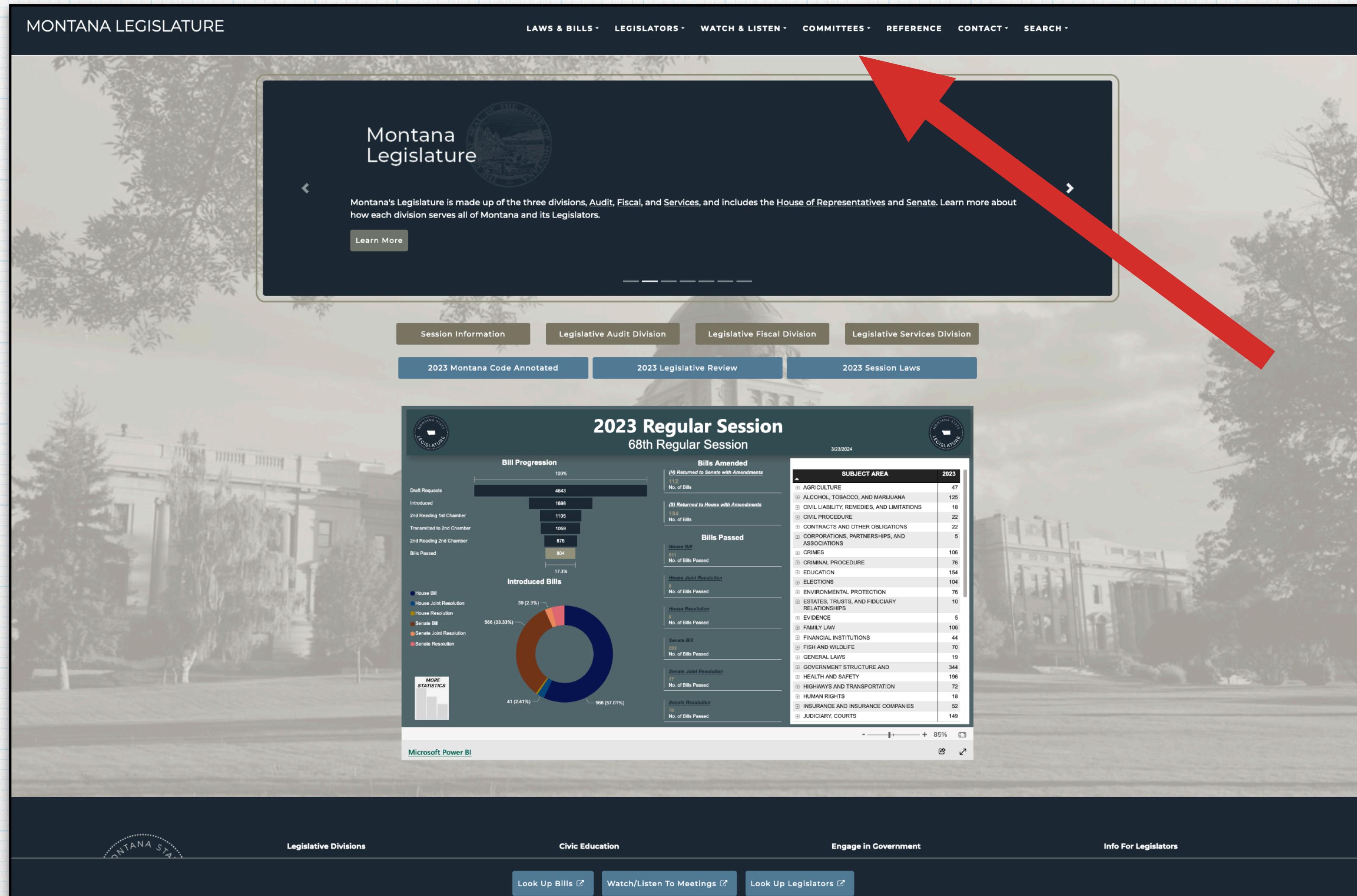
There are **13 general interim committees**,

- 6 budget interim committees (i.e. Budget-Education, Budget-Human services, etc),
- 5 general administrative committees, (Audit, Consumer, Finance, Information Techonology, etc)and
- a few special committees which are created by a study resolution or specific legislation.

Majority leadership appoints and determines the number of Republicans and Democrats, The Environmental Quality Council was created by law and includes 4 public members which leadership chooses from applicants.



Committees on leg.mt.gov



MONTANA LEGISLATURE

LAWS & BILLS · LEGISLATORS · WATCH & LISTEN · COMMITTEES · REFERENCE · CONTACT · SEARCH ·

Montana Legislature

Montana's Legislature is made up of the three divisions, Audit, Fiscal, and Services, and includes the House of Representatives and Senate. Learn more about how each division serves all of Montana and its Legislators.

Learn More

Session Information · Legislative Audit Division · Legislative Fiscal Division · Legislative Services Division

2023 Montana Code Annotated · 2023 Legislative Review · 2023 Session Laws

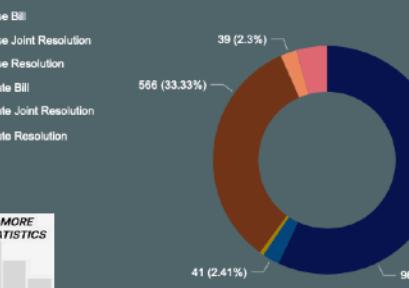
2023 Regular Session
68th Regular Session

3/23/2024

Bill Progression

Stage	Count
Draft Requests	4643
Introduced	1698
2nd Reading 1st Chamber	1105
Transmitted to 2nd Chamber	1059
2nd Reading 2nd Chamber	875
Bills Passed	804

Introduced Bills



Bills Amended

Stage	Count
(1) Draft Requests	117
(3) Introduced	184

Bills Passed

Stage	Count
House Bill	241
House Joint Resolution	8
Senate Bill	17
Senate Joint Resolution	1

Subject Area

Subject Area	Count
AGRICULTURE	47
ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, AND MARIJUANA	125
CIVIL LIABILITY, REMEDIES, AND LIMITATIONS	18
CIVIL PROCEDURE	22
CONTRACTS AND OTHER OBLIGATIONS	22
CORPORATIONS, PARTNERSHIPS, AND ASSOCIATIONS	5
CRIMES	106
CRIMINAL PROCEDURE	76
EDUCATION	154
ELECTIONS	104
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION	78
ESTATES, TRUSTS, AND FIDUCIARY RELATIONSHIPS	10
EVIDENCE	5
FAMILY LAW	106
FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS	44
FISH AND WILDLIFE	70
GENERAL LAWS	19
GOVERNMENT STRUCTURE AND	344
HEALTH AND SAFETY	196
HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION	72
HUMAN RIGHTS	18
INSURANCE AND INSURANCE COMPANIES	52
JUDICIARY, COURTS	149

Microsoft Power BI

Legislative Divisions · Civic Education · Engage in Government · Info For Legislators

Look Up Bills · Watch/Listen To Meetings · Look Up Legislators

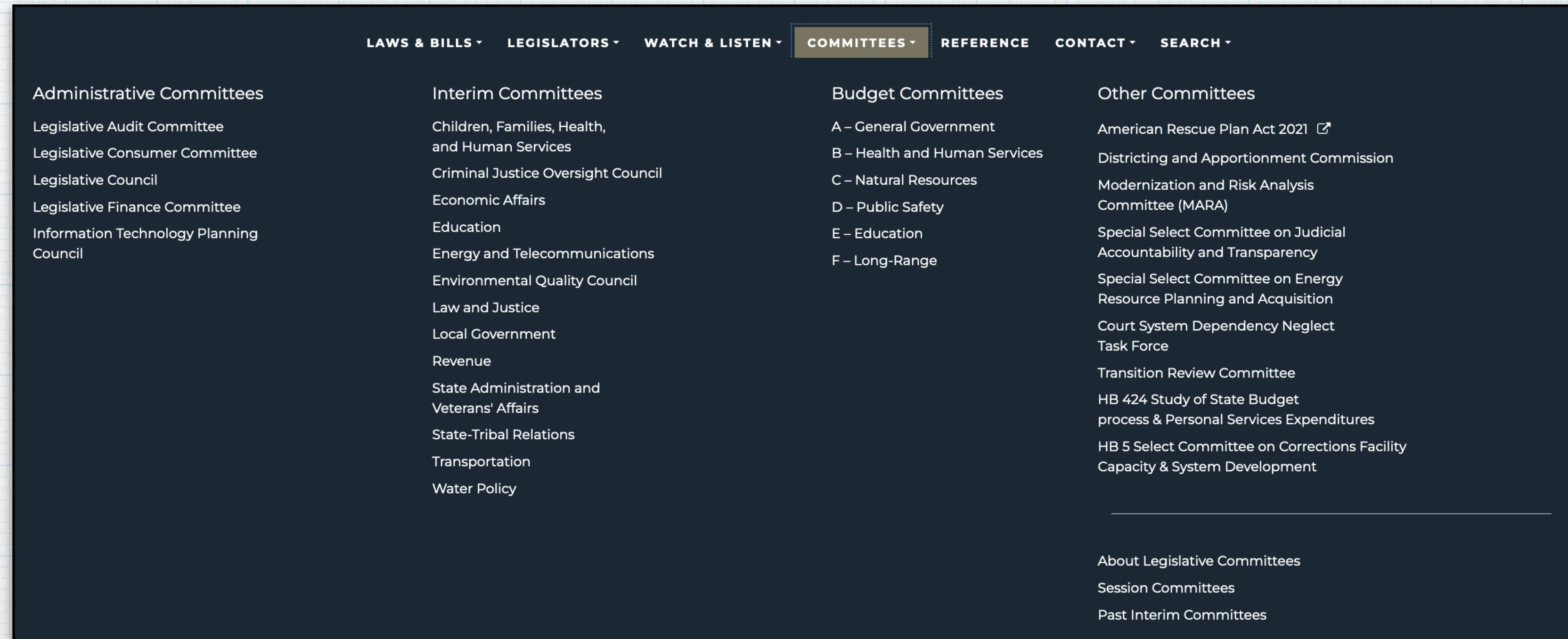


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Interim committees

Interim committees allow legislators to study certain issues within their area over a 2 year period and write a bill. It comes out of committee and into the process with perhaps more information, study, discussion, and clout than an ordinary bill draft. **Citizens can impact** the final bill form by testimony and contacts with legislators. One would think these committee bills would be guaranteed to pass through the process, but that is not the case.



The screenshot shows a dark-themed website for legislative committees. At the top, there is a navigation bar with links: LAWS & BILLS, LEGISLATORS, WATCH & LISTEN, COMMITTEES (which is the active tab, highlighted in a darker shade), REFERENCE, CONTACT, and SEARCH. The main content area is divided into four columns. The first column lists 'Administrative Committees' including Legislative Audit Committee, Legislative Consumer Committee, Legislative Council, Legislative Finance Committee, and Information Technology Planning Council. The second column lists 'Interim Committees' including Children, Families, Health, and Human Services; Criminal Justice Oversight Council; Economic Affairs; Education; Energy and Telecommunications; Environmental Quality Council; Law and Justice; Local Government; Revenue; State Administration and Veterans' Affairs; State-Tribal Relations; Transportation; and Water Policy. The third column lists 'Budget Committees' including A – General Government, B – Health and Human Services, C – Natural Resources, D – Public Safety, E – Education, and F – Long-Range. The fourth column lists 'Other Committees' including American Rescue Plan Act 2021, Districting and Apportionment Commission, Modernization and Risk Analysis Committee (MARA), Special Select Committee on Judicial Accountability and Transparency, Special Select Committee on Energy Resource Planning and Acquisition, Court System Dependency Neglect Task Force, Transition Review Committee, HB 424 Study of State Budget process & Personal Services Expenditures, and HB 5 Select Committee on Corrections Facility Capacity & System Development. At the bottom of the page, there are links for 'About Legislative Committees', 'Session Committees', and 'Past Interim Committees'.



Get involved

- Identify the committees you have an interest in following.
- Identify any committee members from your area or whom you may already know.
- Watch/listen and offer testimony virtually if you cannot attend in person.
- If you wish to offer testimony, you have to sign up 24 hours ahead of the committee meeting. When you go on the committee's agenda page, there is a link to allow you to do that.



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MONTANA STATE LEGISLATURE

2023-2024 ENERGY AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS INTERIM COMMITTEE

Home / Committees / Interim Committees / 2023-2024 ETIC

Committee Members Meeting Minutes Studies/ Topics Statutory Duties Committee Legislation Admin Materials

The Energy and Telecommunications Interim Committee (ETIC) is a partisan committee of the Legislature that conducts interim studies as assigned. The committee also provides administrative rule review, draft legislation review, program evaluation, and oversight for the Department of Service Regulation (DPSR) and the [Public Service Commission \(PSC\)](#). The committee's statutory duties are in [5-5-230, MCA](#).

Committee Members

REPRESENTATIVE KATIE ZOLNIKOV (R) --Chair	SENATOR BRAD MOLNAR (R) --Member	SENATOR BARRY USHER (R) --Member	SENATOR DANIEL ZOLNIKOV (R) --Member
REPRESENTATIVE LAURIE BISHOP (D) --Member	REPRESENTATIVE STEVEN GALLOWAY (R) --Member	REPRESENTATIVE GARY PARRY (R) --Member	SENATOR CHRISTOPHER POPE (D) --Vice Chair

Next Scheduled Meeting:
March 15, 2024
9:30 a.m.
Room 172, State Capitol

Meeting Information
[Public comment guidelines](#)

[Submit Public Comment](#)

View Legislative News

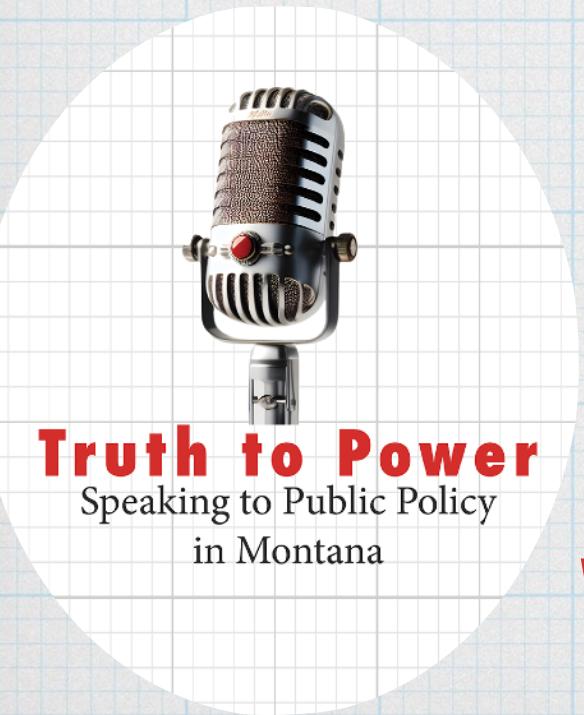
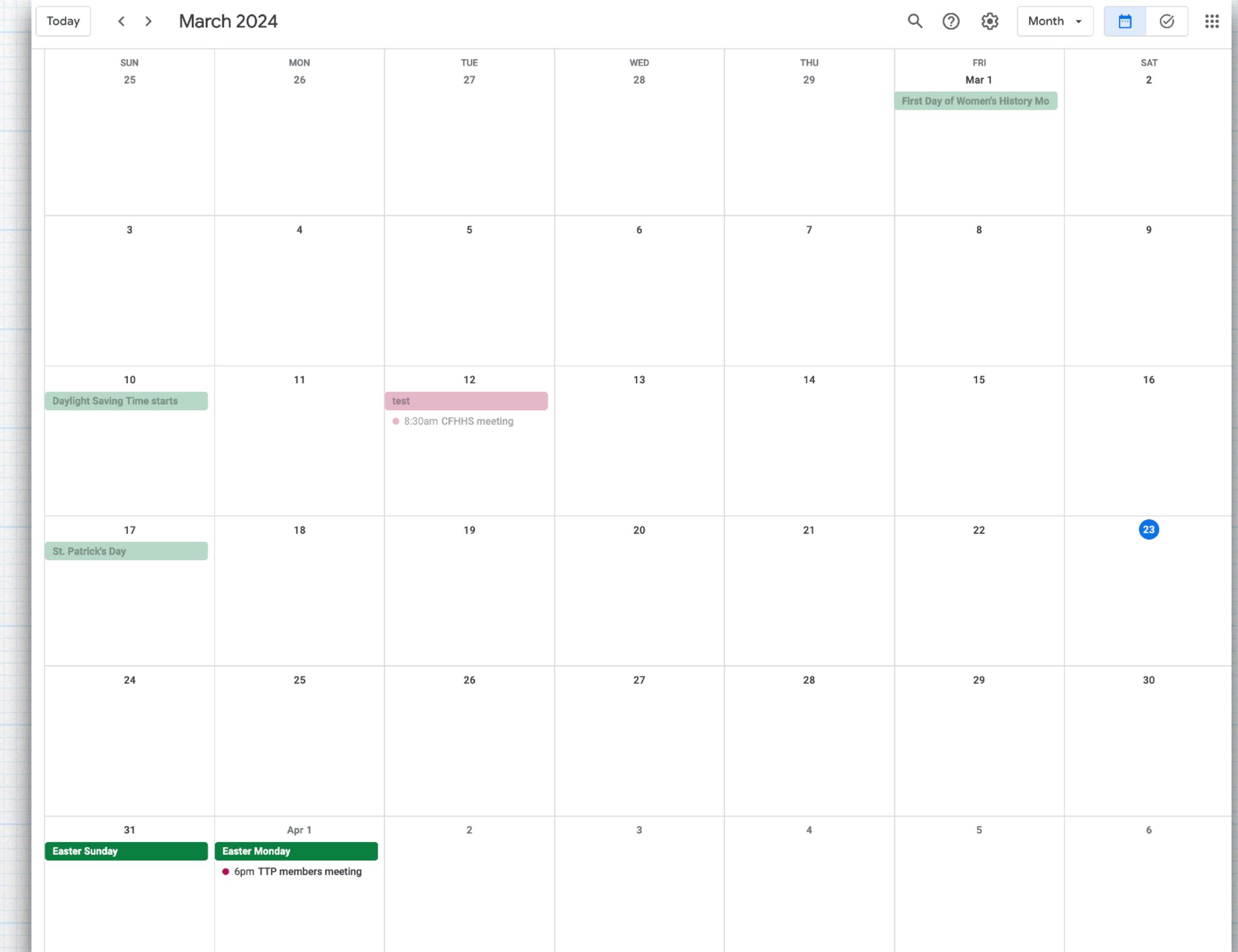
Sign Up For Email Notifications

ETIC STAFF:

[Trevor Graff, Research Analyst](#)
[Jameson Walker, Attorney](#)
[Jacelyn Sterling, Secretary](#)

When interim committees meet

Visit our calendar
on our website:
TTPmontana.org
or navigate to each
committee's website
also see the streaming
schedule at leg.mt.gov



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How do you know if its a committee bill?

leg.mt.gov

Laws and bills

Reports on bottom of page

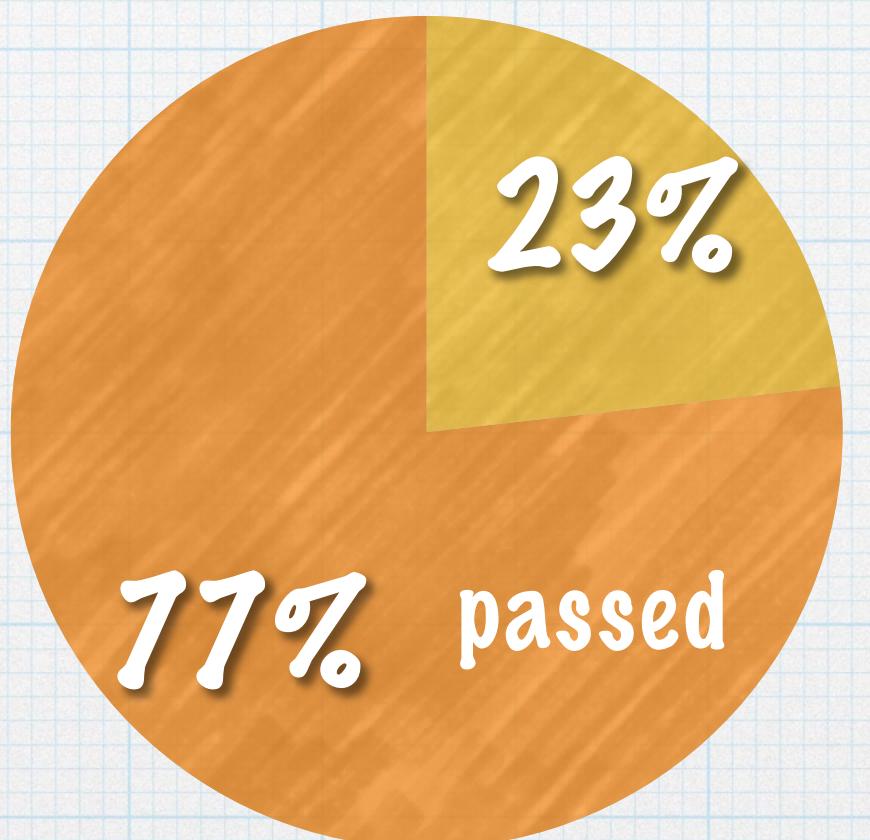
“By Request Of” List



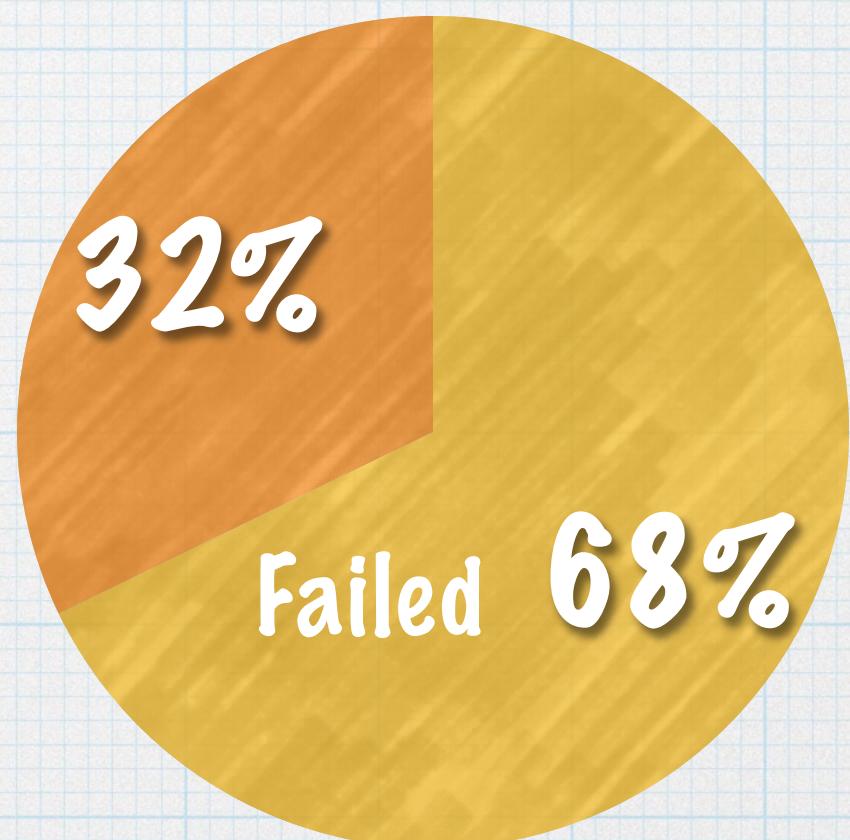
Why do you care if its a committee bill?

Committee bills are more likely to pass.

Your advocacy on interim committees is
more likely be effective



committee bills



all bills



Call to Action

- Identify the committees you have an interest in following.
- Identify any committee members from your area or whom you may already know.
- Watch/listen and offer testimony virtually if you cannot attend in person.
- If you wish to offer testimony, you have to sign up 24 hours ahead of the committee meeting. When you go on the committee's agenda page, there is a link to allow you to do that.

Bring a friend! Share what you find with a kindred spirit!

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