



MACo LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

VOLUME 20, NO. 4

January 16, 2009

The Montana Association of Counties (MACo) publishes this **weekly** bulletin containing summary descriptions of bills of interest to local government officials. **Each issue lists only the bills that have been introduced during the week. Please save this message or print it for future reference.**

Copies of bills are typically sent to County Clerks and Recorders and also can be found at: [http://laws.leg.mt.gov/laws09/LAW0200W\\$.Startup](http://laws.leg.mt.gov/laws09/LAW0200W$.Startup)

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Many legislators have their own e-mail addresses, which can be found at <http://leg.mt.gov/css/sessions/61st/roster.asp?HouseID=0&SessionID=94>

MACo & the Montana Legislature

The MACo Web site has a page at <http://www.maco.cog.mt.us/Legislature/Legislative.htm> dedicated to helping members keep track of the happenings at the 61th Montana Legislature. There you'll find MACo's resolutions, links to pertinent bills, an archive of our weekly *Legislative Updates*, links to bills and bill status reports, hearings calendars, committee listings, legislator contact information, and more.

Scheduled Hearings

The Senate Local Government Committee meets Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays at 3 p.m. in Room 405. The House Local Government Committee meets Tuesdays and Thursdays at 3 p.m. in Room 172. MACo bills are shown below in **bold**.

Monday, Jan. 19

	Room	Time
HB 83 Professional retirement option for K-12 workforce	455	8 a.m.
HB 99 Revise proof of residency requirements for voter registration and voting	455	8 a.m.
HB 87 Provide increase in employer contribution to optional retirement program	455	8 a.m.
HB 109 Generally revise retirement statutes	455	8 a.m.
HB 2 General appropriations act	317A	8 a.m.
HB 2 General appropriations act	317B	8 a.m.
HB 2 General appropriations act	102	8 a.m.
HB 6 Renewable resource grants and loans	350	8 a.m.
HB 2 General appropriations act	317C	8:30 a.m.
SB 158 Revise number of judges in judicial districts	303	9 a.m.
SB 196 State holiday for American Indian Heritage celebration	335	3 p.m.
SB 186 Voluntary party affiliation on voter registration; and caucus participation	335	3 p.m.
SB 187 Limit districting to 1% deviation	335	3 p.m.
SB 78 Clarify mill levy limit for soil conservation districts	405	3 p.m.
SB 148 Revise and clarify local government districts	405	3 p.m.
SB 79 Reduced staffing for certain ambulance transports	317A	3 p.m.
SB 77 Volunteer EMT on board of medical examiners	317A	3 p.m.
SB 107 Require training on mechanized fuels reduction and fire suppression equipment	422	3 p.m.
SB 113 State land fuel reduction pilot program	422	3 p.m.
SB 111 Clarifying DNRC initial wildland fire attack authority	422	3 p.m.
HB 84 Extend duration of fire emergency	472	3 p.m.
HB 233 Increase truck weight limits in winter months	455	3 p.m.
HJ 5 Support funding for health information technology	152	3 p.m.
HB 104 Revise source of funding for pay for state active duty for firefighting	102	3 p.m.

Scheduled Hearings, cont.

	Room	Time
Monday, Jan. 19		
SB 18 Revise fiscal note laws	317	5 p.m.
Tuesday, Jan. 20		
HB 2 General appropriations act	317A	8 a.m.
HB 2 General appropriations act	317B	8 a.m.
HB 2 General appropriations act	102	8 a.m.
HB 205 Revise law on postconviction petitions	137	8 a.m.
HB 170 Ensuring tax qualification by IRS of certain retirement systems	455	8 a.m.
HB 142 Eliminate automatic trigger that decreases employer contribution	455	8 a.m.
HB 164 Extend fire suppression committee	455	8 a.m.
HB 6 Renewable resource grants and loans	350	8 a.m.
HB 2 General appropriations act	472	8 a.m.
HB 2 General appropriations act	317C	8:30 a.m.
SJ 11 Request Congress fund bioproduct innovation centers	335	3 p.m.
SB 203 Eliminate requirement for periodic replacement of state license plates	405	3 p.m.
HB 51 Make state park fee opt in	152	3 p.m.
HB 81 Study long-term impacts of budget and demographics driving costs	102	3 p.m.
HB 48 Revise laws relating to growth through Agriculture program	472	3 p.m.
HB 226 Grant for at-risk youth after school programs	102	3 p.m.
Wednesday, Jan. 21		
HB 182 Prohibit state agencies from lobbying legislature	455	8 a.m.
HB 197 Clarify signature requirements for recall petitions	455	8 a.m.
HB 174 Revise term limits for legislators	455	8 a.m.
SB 179 Adjust tax credit for inflation for elderly homeowners and renters	405	8 a.m.
SB 205 Assault on a health care or emergency services provider	303	9 a.m.
SB 208 Include non-profit hospital employees in county health plan	317	3 p.m.
SB 17 Require public water and sewer systems for certain subdivisions	405	3 p.m.
SB 215 Revise reference to county share of county attorney pay	405	3 p.m.
SB 131 Require DNRC to designate wildland-urban interface	422	3 p.m.
SB 129 Fire management easement program	422	3 p.m.
HB 49 Restrict cell phone use while driving	455	3 p.m.
HB 40 Revise water right permit process	472	3 p.m.
Thursday, Jan. 22		
SB 198 Tax biomass generation facilities up to 25 megawatts as class 14 property	405	8 a.m.
SB 190 Bed tax for heritage sites, historic preservation, and Travel Montana	422	9 a.m.
Friday, Jan. 23		
HB 95 Cost of care contributions under Youth Court Act	137	8 a.m.
HB 20 Create weatherization account using oil and gas production tax	152	3 p.m.
SB 166 Allow low-interest coal tax trust fund loans to expand rail passenger service	405	3 p.m.
SB 172 Authorize social host ordinances	405	3 p.m.
SB 97 Revise petroleum tank release laws	422	3 p.m.
SB 76 Revise enhanced recovery of oil and gas laws	422	3 p.m.
SB 82 Clarify Medicaid third party liability	317A	3 p.m.
SB 49 Energy efficiency standards for construction of state buildings	335	3 p.m.

Projected Session Calendar

Please note: This calendar was revised by legislative leadership Dec. 4, 2008; leadership holds the authority to further revise the schedule, including the days the Legislature meets and the proposed breaks.

Introduction deadlines: Generally, bills and resolutions must be introduced within two legislative days after delivery. JR 40-50, H40-10.

“General bills” is used to denote all bills, except appropriation or revenue bills, and all joint resolutions.

Projected Session Calendar, cont.

Notes: Deadline dates are determined according to legislative days, using a six-day legislative week. Certain bills and resolutions relating to administrative rules may be transmitted at any time during the session. JR 40-200(3).

Jan. 16 Last day to request General Bills
 Jan. 24: Last day to request Revenue Bills
 Feb. 16: Last day for Committee to request General Bills
 Feb. 26: Transmittal of General Bills to other Chamber
 Feb. 27-28: Transmittal Break
 March 18: Transmittal of Revenue-Estimating Joint Resolutions
 March 20: Last day for Committee to request Revenue Bills
 March 26: Transmittal of Appropriation Bills
 March 31: Transmittal of Revenue Bills
 April 2: Transmittal of amendments to General Bills
 April 4: Last day to request Study Resolution or Committee Bills to implement HB2
 April 14: Transmittal of amendments to Appropriation Bills
 April 16: Transmittal of amendments to Revenue Bills and Revenue-Estimating Joint Resolutions
 April 20: Transmittal of Interim Study Resolutions
 April 25: Session adjourns; Sine Die

MACo Resolutions/Legislation

No.	Title	Res. No.	Sponsor	Status-Date
HB 18	Mail ballot pilot project	2008-23	Ingraham	Hearing-1/14
HB 38	Revise laws to reflect passage of six-mill levy	2008-22	Campbell	Hearing-1/9
HB 45	Compliance w/ federal law for forest reserve payments	MACoBd	Ingraham	3 rd reading-1/16
HB 81	Study long-term impacts of budget/demographics		Lake	Hearing-1/20
HB 156	Uniform penalty/enforcement for zoning violations	2004-28	Pomnichowski	Referred to committee-12/23
HB 180*	Montana-based business technology districts	2008-38	Pomnichowski	Tabled in committee-1/15
HB 190	Clarify stream access from bridges/fencing	2008-11	Cooney	Draft ready for delivery-12/30
HB 194	County payment from hard rock mining trust account	2008-24	Mendenhall	Re-referred to committee-1/13
HB 230	Revise local government employee incentive program	2008-15	McClafferty	Referred to committee-1/12
HB 244	Clarify law on absence by county officer	2008-01	Ankney	Referred to committee-1/13
HB 245	Authorize counties to create compensated absence fund	2008-09	Ankney	Referred to committee-1/13
SB 30	Revise reimbursement for meals, lodging	MACoEC	Gebhardt	Tabled in committee-1/9
SB 57	Revise laws governing special districts	2008-33	Gillan	Hearing-1/7
SB 58	Revise local government laws	2008-33	Gillan	Hearing-1/7
SB 78	Clarify mill levy limit for soil conservation districts	2008-31	Brendan	Hearing-1/19
SB 148	Revise and clarify local government laws	2008-26	Peterson	Hearing-1/19
SB 169	Revise drug testing requirements for public officers	2008-13	Gebhardt	Hearing-1/14
SB 191	Provide funding for court security	2008-11	Jent	Hearing-1/16
SB 208	Include non-profit hospital employees in co. health plan	MACoHCT	Lewis	Hearing-1/21
SJ 7	Opposition to HR 2421	2008-08	Brendan	Referred to committee-12/23
LC0605	Revise territory transfer laws relating to K-12 school dists.	2008-29	L. Jones	Draft on hold-1/8
LC0606	Revise laws governing electric transmission lines	2008-12	L. Jones	Draft on hold-11/12
LC0659	Authorize local governments to form investment pool	2008-30	Lewis	Draft on hold-11/19
LC0942	Revise laws governing local subdivision regulations	2008-07	Brueggeman	Draft on hold-1/8
LC0943	Revise impact fee laws	2008-19	Brueggeman	Draft ready for delivery-12/30
LC0998	Revise laws relating to licensed establishments f/ health	2008-18	Kaufmann	Draft in assy/ED review-1/15
LC1089	Funding for grants to counties under youth court act	2008-40	McChesney	Draft on hold-12/8
LC1342	State PILT payment to offset state land purchases	2008-34	Bean	Draft on hold-12/10
LC1922	Clarify appt. of commissioners for regional airport authority	2008-03	Milburn	Draft on hold-1/5
LC1936	Create youth summer employment program		Branae	Draft to requester f/ review-1/2

* HB 180 is being replaced by LC2121

MACo Watch List

No.	Title
SB 179	Adjust tax credit for inflation for elderly homeowners and renters
SB 181	Require tax information agents to report certain real estate transactions
SB 186	Voluntary party affiliation on voter registration; and caucus participation
SB 187	Limit districting to 1% deviation
SB 190	Bed tax for heritage sites, historic preservation and Travel Montana
SB 191	Provide funding for court security
SB 192	Small business work comp relief
SB 193	Survey monument preservation
SB 196	State holiday for American Indian Heritage celebration
SB 200	Restrict phosphorous cleaning products in certain areas
SB 203	Eliminate requirement for periodic replacement of state license plates
SB 205	Assault on a health care or emergency services provider
SB 207	Salvage vehicle buyers license
SB 213	Require FWP plan to manage wildlife to prevent disease transmission
SB 215	Revise reference to county share of county attorney pay
SJ 1	Joint legislative rules
SJ 5	Continued interim monitoring of health care pricing and information disclosure
SJ 10	Study options for state work comp coverage
SJ 11	Request Congress fund bioproduct innovation centers
SR 1	Senate rules
HB 204	Revise work comp law re independent contractor for 10-year period
HB 205	Revise law on postconviction petitions
HB 209	Revise school zone traffic laws
HB 225	Include deputy sheriffs in police arbitration act
HB 226	Grant for at-risk youth after school programs
HB 227	Offset of personal consumption expenses in survival actions
HB 228	Citizen self-defense and firearm rights
HB 231	Revise laws on incorporation of cities and towns
HB 232	Remove limits on payments in lieu of taxes for state land in counties
HB 240	Reduce business equipment property tax and reimburse local tax jurisdictions
HB 242	Revise juror fee laws
HJ 2	Revenue estimating resolution
HJ 4	Urge authority for gubernatorial wildfire fuel hazard crisis
HJ 7	Urge modification of federal wildfire policy
HR 1	House rules
LC1442	Revise workers compensation act on exemptions, claims examiners, safety funding