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Criminal Justice Oversight Council

69th Montana Legislature

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AGENDA

September 2, 2026
State Capitol, Room 172 and Zoom

PLEASE NOTE:

- All times are approximate; some agenda items may take more or less time than allotted.
- The agenda may be adjusted or be paused for breaks at the discretion of the presiding officer.
- See page 4 of this agenda for information on accessibility and public participation.

8:00 a.m. **Call to Order and Roll Call**
Chair Barry Usher

8:10 a.m. **Criminal Justice Data Warehouse:** Implementation update and review of related provisional draft council legislation

Implementation update
Kayla Bragg, Executive Director, Montana Board of Crime Control
Janice Fries, Statistical Analysis Center Director, Montana Board of Crime Control
Adam Carpenter, Chief Data Officer, Department of Administration

Updated provisional draft legislation
Laura Sherley, LSD Staff

- (**CJOC PD6.2**) - Establish criminal justice data warehouse priorities for the 2027-2028 interim
    - Public comment* on the topic
    - Council discussion and questions
    - *Potential action item*: revise/approve CJOC-PD6.2, if wanted

8:45 a.m. **Council Membership**: Review of provisional draft council legislation
Laura Sherley, LSD Staff

- (**CJOC-PD7**) – Generally revise criminal justice oversight council membership
    - Public comment* on the topic
    - Council discussion and questions
    - *Potential action item*: revise/approve CJOC-PD7, if wanted

9:00 a.m. **Regional Jails**: National research on other states' models and stakeholder input

Other states' regional jail models
Amanda Essex, Civil and Criminal Justice Program, National Assoc. of State Legislatures

Montana stakeholder input
Nic Eisele, Undersheriff, Fallon County
Brian Heino, Sheriff, Flathead County
Jenny Root, Detention Commander, Flathead County

- Public comment* on the topic
- Council discussion and questions

9:45 a.m. **Break**

10:00 a.m. **Pretrial process**: Timing, delays, and potential opportunities for improvement

Data on average case duration
Dave McAlpin, Court Administrator

Law enforcement pretrial process
Brian Heino, Sheriff, Flathead County
Jenny Root, Detention Commander, Flathead County

Discussion on pretrial process and when delays occur
Hon. Luke Berger, Council Vice Chair and 5th Judicial District Court Judge
Hon. Mark Dunn, Council Member and Great Falls Municipal Court Judge
Koan Mercer, Council Member and Office of State Public Defender Director
Scott Twito, Council Member and Yellowstone County Attorney

- Public comment* on the topic
- Council discussion and questions

11:30 a.m. **Lunch**

1:00 p.m. **Department of Corrections Licensing Task Force**: Overview of the Task Force's work
Eric Strauss, Director, Department of Corrections
Kevin Bragg, Professional & Occupational Licensing Bur. Chief, Dept. of Labor & Industry

- Public comment* on the topic
- Council discussion and questions

1:30 p.m. **HJ 45 – Study of Collateral Consequences of Criminal Convictions and Criminal Record Expungement**

Provisional draft legislation
Laura Sherley, LSD Staff
Abbie Czoik, LSD Attorney

- (**CJOC PD5.2**) - Generally revise laws related to the misdemeanor expungement clarification act
- (**CJOC PD8**) - Revise laws related to misdemeanor record expungement procedure

Review of draft HJ45 study report
Laura Sherley, LSD Staff

- Public comment* on the topic
- Council discussion and questions
- *Potential action item*: revise/approve HJ45 draft study report, CJOC-PD5.2, and/or CJOC-PD8, if wanted

2:00 p.m. **Federal vs. State Definition of Bodily Injury:** Review of updated provisional draft council legislation
Abbie Czoik, LSD Attorney

- (**CJOC-PD3.3**) – Revise laws related to partner and family member assault
  - Public comment* on the topic
  - Council discussion and questions
  - *Potential action item*: revise/approve CJOC-PD3.3, if wanted

2:15 p.m. **Child Victim Services**: Review of updated provisional draft council legislation
Laura Sherley, LSD Staff

- (**CJOC-PD4.2**) – Define child advocacy centers
  - Public comment* on the topic
  - Council discussion and questions
  - *Potential action item*: revise/approve CJOC-PD4.2, if wanted

2:30 p.m. **Draft 2025-2026 Biennial Report**
Laura Sherley, LSD Staff

- Public comment* on the topic
- Council discussion and questions
- *Potential action item*: revise/approve 2025-2026 Biennial Report

2:45 p.m. **Public Comment*** on any topic under the council's jurisdiction but not on this agenda

3:00 p.m. **Council Work Session**

- Review of council legislation and assign sponsors:
  - (**CJOC-PD1**) – Repeal sunset date on the Crime Victims Compensation Account
  - Any other adopted CJOC drafts
- Direction to staff: member topics, required reports, etc.
- Other directions to staff?

3:30 p.m. **Adjourn**

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The public may attend the meeting and offer public comment in the Capitol or provide public comment either using remote meeting technology or in writing.

To offer public comment via remote meeting technology, please submit the online form for remote participation at least 2 hours before the scheduled start of the meeting: https://participate.legmt.gov/.

Written public comment may be submitted either through the online form for written comment or by mailing the comments to the Criminal Justice Oversight Council, PO Box 201706, Helena, MT 59620.

**Public comment provided in person or remotely at a legislative meeting is a public record that is videotaped, archived, and available on the internet. Public comment submitted in writing at a meeting is a public record that will be posted to the legislative website as part of the minutes log for the meeting.*

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