

2021 BILL WATCH LIST – Position**Date of Update: May 10, 2021****MT HB2****General Appropriations Act****Position:**

Monitor

Bill Summary:

An act appropriating money to various state agencies for the biennium ending June 30, 2023 and providing an immediate effective date. After an amendment was made and accepted to move regions/CVBs from statutory appropriations to be part of the Montana Department of Commerce general fund budget, we were able to reverse that on March 31, 2021. We thank Senator Bartel for hearing the industry's concerns and moving to keep regions/CVBs as they are currently in the lodging facility use tax statute. In the last week of the session, the original \$400,000 that Virginia Nevada City receives was struck and replaced with 2.7% or \$1,000,000 (whichever is less) from Department of Commerce's 63%. \$600,000 of that amount per year is only for six years to allow for deferred maintenance and backlogs to be completed. After that, Virginia Nevada City funding will be 2.7% or \$400,000 (whichever is less). The Montana Heritage Preservation and Development Commission shall report on the use of funds received to the legislative finance committee on a semiannual basis.

Bill Sponsors:

Llew Jones (R)

Bill Status:

4 - Passed

Last Action:

(C) Printed - New Version Available

Official Document:

[https://laws.leg.mt.gov/legprd/LAW0210W\\$BSIV.ActionQuery?P_BILL_NO1=2&P_BLTP_BILL_TYP_CD=HB&Z_ACTION=Find&P_SESS=20211](https://laws.leg.mt.gov/legprd/LAW0210W$BSIV.ActionQuery?P_BILL_NO1=2&P_BLTP_BILL_TYP_CD=HB&Z_ACTION=Find&P_SESS=20211)

MT HB5**Long-Range Building Appropriations****Position:**

Support

Bill Summary:

Amends 15-68-820 to extend the sales and use tax for the construction of the Montana Heritage Center by one year. Due to the lower than anticipated collections from 2020, this extension helps shore up funding for the museum.

Bill Sponsors:

Llew Jones (R)

Bill Status:

4 - Passed

Last Action:

(H) Transmitted to Governor

Official Document:

[https://laws.leg.mt.gov/legprd/LAW0210W\\$BSIV.ActionQuery?P_BILL_NO1=5&P_BLTP_BILL_TYP_CD=HB&Z_ACTION=Find&P_SESS=20211](https://laws.leg.mt.gov/legprd/LAW0210W$BSIV.ActionQuery?P_BILL_NO1=5&P_BLTP_BILL_TYP_CD=HB&Z_ACTION=Find&P_SESS=20211)

MT HB9**Cultural and Aesthetic Grants****Position:**

Support

Bill Summary:

An act establishing priorities for cultural and aesthetic projects grant awards, appropriating money for cultural and aesthetic grants and providing an effective date. The Montana Arts Council shall award grants for projects authorized by and limited to the amounts appropriated equaling \$309,800. All projects are listed in the bill.

Bill Sponsors:

Mike Hopkins (R)

Bill Status:

4 - Passed

Last Action:

(H) Transmitted to Governor

Official Document:

[https://laws.leg.mt.gov/legprd/LAW0210W\\$BSIV.ActionQuery?P_BILL_NO1=9&P_BLTP_BILL_TYP_CD=HB&Z_ACTION=Find&P_SESS=20211](https://laws.leg.mt.gov/legprd/LAW0210W$BSIV.ActionQuery?P_BILL_NO1=9&P_BLTP_BILL_TYP_CD=HB&Z_ACTION=Find&P_SESS=20211)

MT HB12**Historic Preservation Grants****Position:**

Support

Bill Summary:

An act appropriating and authorizing money from the Historic Preservation Grant Program account to the Department of Commerce for historic preservation projects equaling \$3,189,996. It places conditions on grants and funds and providing an effective date. All projects are listed in the bill.

Bill Sponsors:

Mike Hopkins (R)

Bill Status:

4 - Passed

Last Action:

(H) Transmitted to Governor

Official Document:

[https://laws.leg.mt.gov/legprd/LAW0210W\\$BSIV.ActionQuery?P_BILL_NO1=12&P_BLTP_BILL_TYP_CD=HB&Z_ACTION=Find&P_SESS=20211](https://laws.leg.mt.gov/legprd/LAW0210W$BSIV.ActionQuery?P_BILL_NO1=12&P_BLTP_BILL_TYP_CD=HB&Z_ACTION=Find&P_SESS=20211)

MT HB34**Revise statutes to reflect federal recognition of Little Shell tribe****Position:**

Support

Bill Summary:

An act recognizing the federal recognition of the Little Shell Band of Chippewa Indians - revising laws to reflect federal recognition of eight Indian Tribes in Montana instead of seven.

Bill Sponsors:

Frank Smith (D)

Bill Status:

6 - Signed/Enacted

Last Action:

Chapter Number Assigned

Official Document:

[https://laws.leg.mt.gov/legprd/LAW0210W\\$BSIV.ActionQuery?P_BILL_NO1=34&P_BLTP_BILL_TYP_CD=HB&Z_ACTION=Find&P_SESS=20211](https://laws.leg.mt.gov/legprd/LAW0210W$BSIV.ActionQuery?P_BILL_NO1=34&P_BLTP_BILL_TYP_CD=HB&Z_ACTION=Find&P_SESS=20211)

MT HB154**Revise resort tax population limits****Position:**

Support

Bill Summary:

An act revising resort taxes laws to increase the population limits for resort areas and resort communities. Changes definition of "resort area" to increase the population cap from 2,500 to 3,500 and "resort community" to increase the population cap from 5,500 to 10,000. Both must be determined according to the most recent census. Resort area is an unincorporated area and is a defined contiguous geographic area. Resort community is an is an incorporated municipality.

Bill Sponsors:

David Fern (D)

Bill Status:

5 - Dead/Failed

Last Action:

(H) Died in Process

Official Document:

[https://laws.leg.mt.gov/legprd/LAW0210W\\$BSIV.ActionQuery?P_BILL_NO1=154&P_BLTP_BILL_TYP_CD=HB&Z_ACTION=Find&P_SESS=20211](https://laws.leg.mt.gov/legprd/LAW0210W$BSIV.ActionQuery?P_BILL_NO1=154&P_BLTP_BILL_TYP_CD=HB&Z_ACTION=Find&P_SESS=20211)

MT HB163**Revise fish and wildlife commission members****Position:**

Monitor

Bill Summary:

An act revising the membership of the Fish and Wildlife Commission – increasing the number of members from five to seven. Removing the requirement to have representatives from the district but rather from the administrative regions that are housed in Kalispell, Missoula, Bozeman, Great Falls, Billings, Glasgow and Miles City.

Bill Sponsors:

Paul Fielder (R)

Bill Status:

6 - Signed/Enacted

Last Action:

Chapter Number Assigned

Official Document:

[https://laws.leg.mt.gov/legprd/LAW0210W\\$BSIV.ActionQuery?P_BILL_NO1=163&P_BLTP_BILL_TYP_CD=HB&Z_ACTION=Find&P_SESS=20211](https://laws.leg.mt.gov/legprd/LAW0210W$BSIV.ActionQuery?P_BILL_NO1=163&P_BLTP_BILL_TYP_CD=HB&Z_ACTION=Find&P_SESS=20211)

MT HB174**Generally revise winery laws****Position:**

Monitor

Bill Summary:

An act generally revising alcohol regulatory laws relating to wineries; requiring wineries located in Montana to import a certain amount of juice for wine production; allowing certain wineries located in the state that meet production requirements to operate satellite tasting rooms; allowing the Department to waive agricultural importation limits in the event of catastrophic agricultural events; revising shipment limits; allowing certain wineries to obtain special event permits.

Bill Sponsors:

Kenneth Holmlund (R)

Bill Status:

5 - Dead/Failed

Last Action:

(H) Died in Process

Official Document:

[https://laws.leg.mt.gov/legprd/LAW0210W\\$BSIV.ActionQuery?P_BILL_NO1=174&P_BLTP_BILL_TYP_CD=HB&Z_ACTION=Find&P_SESS=20211](https://laws.leg.mt.gov/legprd/LAW0210W$BSIV.ActionQuery?P_BILL_NO1=174&P_BLTP_BILL_TYP_CD=HB&Z_ACTION=Find&P_SESS=20211)

MT HB187**Provide for local option sales tax****Position:**

Monitor

Bill Summary:

An act authorizing a municipality, a consolidated city-county, a county, or a local option tax district, by vote of the electorate, to adopt a local option tax on goods; providing for goods that may be taxed. Provides that an existing resort tax may remain in effect or may be discontinued. Provides that a portion of local option tax revenue may be used for property tax relief and allows for an interlocal agreement to collect local option tax from remote sellers such as online travel/booking agents.

Bill Sponsors:

David Fern (D)

Bill Status:

5 - Dead/Failed

Last Action:

(H) Died in Process

Official Document:

[https://laws.leg.mt.gov/legprd/LAW0210W\\$BSIV.ActionQuery?P_BILL_NO1=187&P_BLTP_BILL_TYP_CD=HB&Z_ACTION=Find&P_SESS=20211](https://laws.leg.mt.gov/legprd/LAW0210W$BSIV.ActionQuery?P_BILL_NO1=187&P_BLTP_BILL_TYP_CD=HB&Z_ACTION=Find&P_SESS=20211)

MT HB257**Revise laws relating to government mandates and businesses****Position:**

Monitor

Bill Summary:

An act generally revising laws related to prohibiting actions that impede a private business's ability to conduct business; prohibiting certain types of local government ordinances and resolutions; prohibiting an emergency plan or program that restricts the ability of a private business to conduct business; prohibiting a local board of health and local health officer from certain actions that restrict the ability of a private business to conduct business. Local health departments are tasked with protecting consumers, which at times requires compelling business owners to deny customers access to their business or their goods and services because of unsafe conditions on the premises or because the specific goods or services offered are unsafe or unapproved for consumption.

Bill Sponsors:

Jedediah Hinkle (R)

Bill Status:

6 - Signed/Enacted

Last Action:

(H) Signed by Governor

Official Document:

[https://laws.leg.mt.gov/legprd/LAW0210W\\$BSIV.ActionQuery?P_BILL_NO1=257&P_BLTP_BILL_TYP_CD=HB&Z_ACTION=Find&P_SESS=20211](https://laws.leg.mt.gov/legprd/LAW0210W$BSIV.ActionQuery?P_BILL_NO1=257&P_BLTP_BILL_TYP_CD=HB&Z_ACTION=Find&P_SESS=20211)

MT HB272**Generally revise motor vehicle laws****Position:**

Monitor

Bill Summary:

An act generally revising motor vehicle laws; allowing a person to register a vehicle for up to 5 years; establishing that fees in lieu of tax or registration fees are nonrefundable; eliminating scheduled replacement of license plates. This bill could potentially impact fees that are generated for state parks and the nonprofit organizations who currently have custom plates.

Bill Sponsors:

Mallerie Stromswold (R)

Bill Status:

5 - Dead/Failed

Last Action:

(H) Died in Process

Official Document:

[https://laws.leg.mt.gov/legprd/LAW0210W\\$BSIV.ActionQuery?P_BILL_NO1=272&P_BLTP_BILL_TYP_CD=HB&Z_ACTION=Find&P_SESS=20211](https://laws.leg.mt.gov/legprd/LAW0210W$BSIV.ActionQuery?P_BILL_NO1=272&P_BLTP_BILL_TYP_CD=HB&Z_ACTION=Find&P_SESS=20211)

MT HB284**Provide living wage****Position:**

Monitor

Bill Summary:

An act providing an increased minimum wage; increasing the minimum wage to \$15; removing minimum wage rates for certain businesses with annual gross sales of \$110,000 or less.

Bill Sponsors:

Mary Dunwell (D)

Bill Status:

5 - Dead/Failed

Last Action:

(H) Died in Process

Official Document:

[https://laws.leg.mt.gov/legprd/LAW0210W\\$BSIV.ActionQuery?
P_BILL_NO1=284&P_BLTP_BILL_TYP_CD=HB&Z_ACTION=Find&P_SESS=20211](https://laws.leg.mt.gov/legprd/LAW0210W$BSIV.ActionQuery?P_BILL_NO1=284&P_BLTP_BILL_TYP_CD=HB&Z_ACTION=Find&P_SESS=20211)

MT HB340**Revise the MEDIA Act film tax credits****Position:**

Strong Support

Bill Summary:

An act generally revising the Montana Economic Development Industry Advancement Act (MEDIA Act) film tax incentives; revising eligible productions to include non-scripted productions, instructional videos and commercials distributed on the internet; revising the calculation of the media production credit; expanding the postproduction credit to apply to qualified postproduction activities; removing the limit on credits claimed (currently \$10 million). On 4/26/2021 amendments were made and accepted that removed all changes in the original bill except to increase the tax cap from the original \$10 million to \$12 million.

Bill Sponsors:

Wylie Galt (R)

Bill Status:

4 - Passed

Last Action:

(H) Transmitted to Governor

Official Document:

[https://laws.leg.mt.gov/legprd/LAW0210W\\$BSIV.ActionQuery?
P_BILL_NO1=340&P_BLTP_BILL_TYP_CD=HB&Z_ACTION=Find&P_SESS=20211](https://laws.leg.mt.gov/legprd/LAW0210W$BSIV.ActionQuery?P_BILL_NO1=340&P_BLTP_BILL_TYP_CD=HB&Z_ACTION=Find&P_SESS=20211)

MT HB348**Generally revise film tax credit laws****Position:**

Strong Support

Bill Summary:

An act revising the tax credit for media production; requiring hiring of Montana residents to qualify for the additional credit for compensation paid. This is to ensure it only applies to people who are actual residents of Montana and do not simply own property here.

Bill Sponsors:

Jim Keane (D)

Bill Status:

5 - Dead/Failed

Last Action:

(H) Died in Process

Official Document:

[https://laws.leg.mt.gov/legprd/LAW0210W\\$BSIV.ActionQuery?
P_BILL_NO1=348&P_BLTP_BILL_TYP_CD=HB&Z_ACTION=Find&P_SESS=20211](https://laws.leg.mt.gov/legprd/LAW0210W$BSIV.ActionQuery?P_BILL_NO1=348&P_BLTP_BILL_TYP_CD=HB&Z_ACTION=Find&P_SESS=20211)

MT HB554**Require legislative approval of national heritage areas, historic trails****Position:**

Monitor

Bill Summary:

An act requiring legislative approval of national heritage areas and national historic trails in Montana. Any designation by the United States National Park Service of a national heritage area or national historic trail, that extends beyond federal land, would require the approval of the Montana Legislature.

Bill Sponsors:

Joshua Kassmier (R)

Bill Status:

4 - Passed

Last Action:

(H) Transmitted to Governor

Official Document:

[https://laws.leg.mt.gov/legprd/LAW0210W\\$BSIV.ActionQuery?
P_BILL_NO1=554&P_BLTP_BILL_TYP_CD=HB&Z_ACTION=Find&P_SESS=20211](https://laws.leg.mt.gov/legprd/LAW0210W$BSIV.ActionQuery?P_BILL_NO1=554&P_BLTP_BILL_TYP_CD=HB&Z_ACTION=Find&P_SESS=20211)

MT HB638**Provide for property tax fairness credit****Position:**

Monitor

Bill Summary:

An act providing for a property tax fairness credit; providing that the credit is a refundable income tax credit for property tax billed or rent-equivalent tax paid; providing that the credit is funded with lodging facility sales tax revenue and revenue from sales of unclaimed property.

Bill Sponsors:

David Fern (D)

Bill Status:

5 - Dead/Failed

Last Action:

(H) Died in Process

Official Document:

[https://laws.leg.mt.gov/legprd/LAW0210W\\$BSIV.ActionQuery?P_BILL_NO1=638&P_BLTP_BILL_TYP_CD=HB&Z_ACTION=Find&P_SESS=20211](https://laws.leg.mt.gov/legprd/LAW0210W$BSIV.ActionQuery?P_BILL_NO1=638&P_BLTP_BILL_TYP_CD=HB&Z_ACTION=Find&P_SESS=20211)

MT HB660**Funding for Made in Montana program****Position:**

Strong Support

Bill Summary:

An act providing a \$200,000 general fund appropriation to the Made-in-Montana program in the Department of Commerce in order to support the made-in-Montana and grown-in-Montana products.

Bill Sponsors:

Joshua Kassmier (R)

Bill Status:

4 - Passed

Last Action:

(H) Transmitted to Governor

Official Document:

[https://laws.leg.mt.gov/legprd/LAW0210W\\$BSIV.ActionQuery?P_BILL_NO1=660&P_BLTP_BILL_TYP_CD=HB&Z_ACTION=Find&P_SESS=20211](https://laws.leg.mt.gov/legprd/LAW0210W$BSIV.ActionQuery?P_BILL_NO1=660&P_BLTP_BILL_TYP_CD=HB&Z_ACTION=Find&P_SESS=20211)

MT HJ3**Joint resolution regarding Yellowstone and Glacier National Parks****Position:**

Monitor

Bill Summary:

A joint resolution of the Senate and the House of Representatives of the State of Montana urging the federal government to establish wildlife conservation fees at national parks in Wyoming and Montana and to transfer those fees to Montana, Idaho, Wyoming, and the Blackfeet Tribal Nation to manage wildlife.

Bill Sponsors:

Thomas France (D)

Bill Status:

5 - Dead/Failed

Last Action:

(H) Died in Process

Official Document:

[https://laws.leg.mt.gov/legprd/LAW0210W\\$BSIV.ActionQuery?P_BILL_NO1=3&P_BLTP_BILL_TYP_CD=HJ&Z_ACTION=Find&P_SESS=20211](https://laws.leg.mt.gov/legprd/LAW0210W$BSIV.ActionQuery?P_BILL_NO1=3&P_BLTP_BILL_TYP_CD=HJ&Z_ACTION=Find&P_SESS=20211)

MT SB6**Revise distribution dates for lodging taxes****Position:**

Support

Bill Summary:

An act revising 15-68-820 distribution dates for the sales tax on lodging from December 30 to December 31. This is a clean up bill.

Bill Sponsors:

Jill Cohenour (D)

Bill Status:

6 - Signed/Enacted

Last Action:

Chapter Number Assigned

Official Document:

[https://laws.leg.mt.gov/legprd/LAW0210W\\$BSIV.ActionQuery?P_BILL_NO1=6&P_BLTP_BILL_TYP_CD=SB&Z_ACTION=Find&P_SESS=20211](https://laws.leg.mt.gov/legprd/LAW0210W$BSIV.ActionQuery?P_BILL_NO1=6&P_BLTP_BILL_TYP_CD=SB&Z_ACTION=Find&P_SESS=20211)

MT SB38**Revised motorized trail program laws****Position:**

Support

Bill Summary:

An act generally revising laws related to recreational trail programs administered by the Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks. It expands uses of summer motorized recreation trail grant funds and renames the Snowmobile Trail Pass as the Winter Trail Pass. It also revises Winter Trail Pass purchase requirements and revenue distribution. It adds motorized safety and ethics education as a use states the department shall consider the recommendations of the state trails off-highway vehicle advisory committee – striking out state trails advisory committee. It adds dog sled to the required pass users list. States that the pass is not required by a person renting equipment, but they must have proof of rental. Also exempt from the pass requirement is a person participating in a dog sled race.

Bill Sponsors:

Terry Gauthier (R)

Bill Status:

6 - Signed/Enacted

Last Action:

Chapter Number Assigned

Official Document:

[https://laws.leg.mt.gov/legprd/LAW0210W\\$BSIV.ActionQuery?P_BILL_NO1=38&P_BLTP_BILL_TYP_CD=SB&Z_ACTION=Find&P_SESS=20211](https://laws.leg.mt.gov/legprd/LAW0210W$BSIV.ActionQuery?P_BILL_NO1=38&P_BLTP_BILL_TYP_CD=SB&Z_ACTION=Find&P_SESS=20211)

MT SB52**Revise lodging facility use tax and sales tax on lodging and rental cars****Position:**

Strong Support

Bill Summary:

An act revising the lodging facility use tax and the sales tax on lodging and rental cars. It aligns definitions for the lodging facility use tax and the sales tax on lodging - requiring registration and collection by online hosting platforms selling accommodations, rental vehicles and short-term rentals. Essentially placing the responsibility of assessing and collection of the tax on the seller of the property and not the owner unless the customer is booking directly with the owner. In the case of a person booking directly with the hotel, the hotel is the seller. In the case of a person booking a room and/or vehicle via an online company, the online company is the seller. This applies to short term rental sellers as well.

Bill Sponsors:

Jason Ellsworth (R)

Bill Status:

4 - Passed

Last Action:

(S) Transmitted to Governor

Official Document:

[https://laws.leg.mt.gov/legprd/LAW0210W\\$BSIV.ActionQuery?P_BILL_NO1=52&P_BLTP_BILL_TYP_CD=SB&Z_ACTION=Find&P_SESS=20211](https://laws.leg.mt.gov/legprd/LAW0210W$BSIV.ActionQuery?P_BILL_NO1=52&P_BLTP_BILL_TYP_CD=SB&Z_ACTION=Find&P_SESS=20211)

MT SB64**Revise compliance with federal REAL ID Act****Position:**

Monitor

Bill Summary:

An act revising state compliance with the federal REAL ID ACT of 2005; clarifying state participation; allowing the department of justice to adopt rules to provide fee waivers.

Bill Sponsors:

Diane Sands (D)

Bill Status:

5 - Dead/Failed

Last Action:

(S) Died in Process

Official Document:

[https://laws.leg.mt.gov/legprd/LAW0210W\\$BSIV.ActionQuery?P_BILL_NO1=64&P_BLTP_BILL_TYP_CD=SB&Z_ACTION=Find&P_SESS=20211](https://laws.leg.mt.gov/legprd/LAW0210W$BSIV.ActionQuery?P_BILL_NO1=64&P_BLTP_BILL_TYP_CD=SB&Z_ACTION=Find&P_SESS=20211)

MT SB65**Revise civil liability laws****Position:**

Support

Bill Summary:

An act revising civil liability laws which sets conditions on civil actions for exposure to COVID-19. It limits liability of premise owners and provides safe harbor for those who comply with certain types of COVID-19 regulations. It limits liability of health care providers and product liability claims in response to COVID-19. This bill is directly tied to Governor Gianforte's COVID response lifting the statewide mask mandate.

Bill Sponsors:

Steven Fitzpatrick (R)

Bill Status:

6 - Signed/Enacted

Last Action:

Chapter Number Assigned

Official Document:

[https://laws.leg.mt.gov/legprd/LAW0210W\\$BSIV.ActionQuery?P_BILL_NO1=65&P_BLTP_BILL_TYP_CD=SB&Z_ACTION=Find&P_SESS=20211](https://laws.leg.mt.gov/legprd/LAW0210W$BSIV.ActionQuery?P_BILL_NO1=65&P_BLTP_BILL_TYP_CD=SB&Z_ACTION=Find&P_SESS=20211)

MT SB73**Provide for local distribution of lodging sales tax revenue****Position:**

Support

Bill Summary:

An act revising the distribution of the sales tax on lodging to provide for distribution to the incorporated city/town or county in which the revenue is collected - requiring a portion of the revenue distributed to incorporated cities/towns and counties to be used for property tax relief and the other portion to be used any purpose allowed by law. Currently, the portion of the lodging tax noted is directed to the state General Fund. Tourism Matters to Montana seeks some clarification on how this may or may not impact local funding from TIF and mill levy funding for local projects and programs.

Bill Sponsors:

Keith Regier (R)

Bill Status:

5 - Dead/Failed

Last Action:

(S) Died in Standing Committee (S) Taxation

Official Document:

[https://laws.leg.mt.gov/legprd/LAW0210W\\$BSIV.ActionQuery?
P_BILL_NO1=73&P_BLTP_BILL_TYP_CD=SB&Z_ACTION=Find&P_SESS=20211](https://laws.leg.mt.gov/legprd/LAW0210W$BSIV.ActionQuery?P_BILL_NO1=73&P_BLTP_BILL_TYP_CD=SB&Z_ACTION=Find&P_SESS=20211)

MT SB143**Generally revise laws re Class B-10 and Class B-11 elk and deer licenses****Position:**

Monitor

Bill Summary:

An act generally revising laws related to Class B-10 and Class B-11 Elk and Deer Combination Licenses; reserving a percentage (60%) of Class B-10 and Class B-11 licenses for nonresidents hunting with an outfitter; establishing application requirements and fees; directing revenue to fund public access land agreements; recodifying laws related to public access land agreements and resident-sponsored Class B-11 licenses; clarifying the total number of Class B-11 licenses available; removing use of the consumer price index for license fee calculations.

Bill Sponsors:

Jason Ellsworth (R)

Bill Status:

5 - Dead/Failed

Last Action:

(S) Died in Process

Official Document:

[https://laws.leg.mt.gov/legprd/LAW0210W\\$BSIV.ActionQuery?
P_BILL_NO1=143&P_BLTP_BILL_TYP_CD=SB&Z_ACTION=Find&P_SESS=20211](https://laws.leg.mt.gov/legprd/LAW0210W$BSIV.ActionQuery?P_BILL_NO1=143&P_BLTP_BILL_TYP_CD=SB&Z_ACTION=Find&P_SESS=20211)

MT SB153**Generally revising laws re: administration of FWP lands/waters****Position:**

Monitor

Bill Summary:

An act generally revising laws related to the administration of lands and waters owned or controlled by the Department of Fish, Wildlife, and Parks. It would transfer administration of fishing access sites and administration of recreational and commercial use of wildlife management areas to the State Parks and Recreation Board requiring two board members to be business owners. This would essentially transfer responsibility for activities and land related to outdoor recreation from the Fish and Wildlife Commission to the State Parks Board.

Bill Sponsors:

Jeff Welborn (R)

Bill Status:

5 - Dead/Failed

Last Action:

(H) Died in Process

Official Document:

[https://laws.leg.mt.gov/legprd/LAW0210W\\$BSIV.ActionQuery?
P_BILL_NO1=153&P_BLTP_BILL_TYP_CD=SB&Z_ACTION=Find&P_SESS=20211](https://laws.leg.mt.gov/legprd/LAW0210W$BSIV.ActionQuery?P_BILL_NO1=153&P_BLTP_BILL_TYP_CD=SB&Z_ACTION=Find&P_SESS=20211)

MT SB254**Revising daylight savings time****Position:**

Monitor

Bill Summary:

An act authorizing year-round mountain daylight saving time. Under this act, Montana would stay in mountain daylight savings time (currently the time we have during the summer hours). Montana would not fall back in the autumn to mountain standard time. Permanent daylight-saving time refers to the year-round observation of daylight-saving time (DST). Permanent DST eliminates the practice of biannual clock changes. A change in federal law would be necessary to allow states to observe DST permanently all year. A number of states have pursued state bills, resolutions, and referendums to indicate intention to observe permanent DST if federal law would permit it. In recent years, 15 states have enacted legislation or passed a resolution to provide for year-round daylight-saving time, if Congress were to allow such a change, and in some cases, if surrounding states enact the same legislation. Full-time DST is not currently allowed by federal law and would require an act of Congress to make a change. Montana joins 15 other states: Georgia (resolution), Idaho, Louisiana, Ohio, South Carolina, Utah, Wyoming, Arkansas, Delaware, Maine, Oregon, Tennessee, Washington, Florida and California (CA voters authorized such a change in 2018, but legislative action is still pending).

Bill Sponsors:

Mary McNally (D)

Bill Status:

4 - Passed

Last Action:

(S) Transmitted to Governor

Official Document:

[https://laws.leg.mt.gov/legprd/LAW0210W\\$BSIV.ActionQuery?P_BILL_NO1=254&P_BLTP_BILL_TYP_CD=SB&Z_ACTION=Find&P_SESS=20211](https://laws.leg.mt.gov/legprd/LAW0210W$BSIV.ActionQuery?P_BILL_NO1=254&P_BLTP_BILL_TYP_CD=SB&Z_ACTION=Find&P_SESS=20211)

MT SB313**Provide for local option tax: Montana Tax Fairness and Rural Revenue Initiative****Position:**

Monitor

Bill Summary:

An act authorizing a municipality or consolidated city-county government, by vote of the electorate, to adopt a local option sales tax; providing that the revenue be used for property tax relief, distributions to counties, infrastructure, and affordable housing programs.

Bill Sponsors:

Christopher Pope (D)

Bill Status:

5 - Dead/Failed

Last Action:

(S) Died in Standing Committee (S) Taxation

Official Document:

[https://laws.leg.mt.gov/legprd/LAW0210W\\$BSIV.ActionQuery?P_BILL_NO1=313&P_BLTP_BILL_TYP_CD=SB&Z_ACTION=Find&P_SESS=20211](https://laws.leg.mt.gov/legprd/LAW0210W$BSIV.ActionQuery?P_BILL_NO1=313&P_BLTP_BILL_TYP_CD=SB&Z_ACTION=Find&P_SESS=20211)

MT SB355**Revise payments related to state school trust lands****Position:**

Neutral

Bill Summary:

An act distributing lodging facility "use" tax revenue to counties with large amounts of state land. This bill was amended on 3/31/2021 to permanently divert \$482,000 annually, of the 4% lodging facility "sales" tax which 75% of which funds the General Fund, to go 16 counties with high percentages of State lands which equates to a lower tax base. 70% of the \$482,000 annual funding would go directly to Daniels County (\$330,000). It was further amended to sunset in two years which would allow for further review of how counties with state lands qualify and receive entitlement payments. The amendment to change the flat amount the Montana Heritage Preservation account for Virginia/Nevada City currently receives from \$400,000 to 3% of the Montana Office of Tourism and Business Development's 63% was struck along with change of funding source from the lodging facility use tax to the lodging facility sales and use tax.

Bill Sponsors:

Mike Lang (R)

Bill Status:

5 - Dead/Failed

Last Action:

(H) Died in Standing Committee (H) Appropriations

Official Document:

[https://laws.leg.mt.gov/legprd/LAW0210W\\$BSIV.ActionQuery?P_BILL_NO1=355&P_BLTP_BILL_TYP_CD=SB&Z_ACTION=Find&P_SESS=20211](https://laws.leg.mt.gov/legprd/LAW0210W$BSIV.ActionQuery?P_BILL_NO1=355&P_BLTP_BILL_TYP_CD=SB&Z_ACTION=Find&P_SESS=20211)