Montana League of Cities and Towns
2025 Legislative Report

Revenue and Finance

Bill	Sponsors	Title	Last Action	Latest Version	Lists
HB 2	Llew Jones Office of Budget and Program Planning by Legislative Council Office of Budget and Program Planning	General Appropriations Act HB 2 appropriates money to various state agencies for the biennium ending June 30, 2027, and has an effective date of July 1, 2025. It details appropriations for various state agencies and includes sections on expenditure control and program definitions.	House, Jun 19, 2025: (H) Returned with Governor's Line-item Veto	HB0002_X	**Subjects** A. Revenue and Finance **M. Passed** **Position** **Monitoring**
HB 16	Larry Brewster Revenue Interim Committee Revenue Interim Committee	Revise infrastructure loan program and tax credit HB 16 revises Montana's Infrastructure Loan Program and Use Fee Tax Credit, removing wage increase considerations for loans and prohibiting the simultaneous claiming of tax credits and deductions for infrastructure use fees. This bill impacts municipalities by altering the criteria for infrastructure loans and tax credits, potentially influencing local economic development projects and funding mechanisms.	legislature, Apr 7, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0016_X	**Subjects** A. Revenue and Finance **M. Passed** **Position** **Monitoring**
HB 20	Larry Brewster Revenue Interim Committee Revenue Interim Committee	Require voted levies to be in dollars rather than mills This bill mandates that voted levies be expressed in dollar amounts instead of mills and passed out of the House with an amendment to annually increase a levy by ¾ of the average rate of inflation for the prior three years using the consumer price index (this does not apply to school districts). This harmful bill does not provide the full rate of inflation that is needed for municipalities to respond to community needs. It continues to limit the critical resources needed for local governments to budget and provide for essential services such as fire, police, infrastructure and many other services.	legislature, Apr 7, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0020_X	**Subjects** A. Revenue and Finance **M. Passed** **Position** **Opposing**
HB 56	Ed Buttrey Economic Affairs Interim Committee Economic Affairs Interim Committee	Establish ambulance provider assessment fee program HB 56 would increase Medicaid payments for ambulance services, which are often provided by local governments or contracted by them, thus improving the financial sustainability of these essential emergency services.	legislature, May 8, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0056_X	**Subjects** A. Revenue and Finance **M. Passed** **Position** **Supporting**
HB 155	Mark Thane Pat Flowers Megan Moore	Revise class four residential and commercial property taxes This legislation proposes significant revisions to property tax laws in Montana, specifically targeting Class Four residential and commercial properties. It introduces a new exemption for a portion of Class Four residential property value while eliminating the previous exemption for Class Four commercial property value.	House, May 22, 2025: (H) Died in Process	HB0155_4	**Subjects** A. Revenue and Finance **L. Dead** **Position** **Monitoring**
HB 156	David Bedey David Bedey Pad McCracken	Revise education funding laws by replacing school district BASE levies with countywide BASE levies HB 156 reforms Montana's education funding by replacing school district-specific BASE levies with a countywide BASE levy, aiming to enhance funding equalization across school districts. The bill also adjusts related funding mechanisms and responsibilities for local officials.	legislature, May 8, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0156_X	**Subjects** A. Revenue and Finance **M. Passed** **Position** **Monitoring**
HB 162	Ken Walsh Ken Walsh Megan Moore	Revise definition of infrastructure for resort tax HB 162 revises the definition of "infrastructure" for resort tax purposes to include certain housing projects, in addition to traditional infrastructure like water and sewer systems. This change allows resort tax levies to be used for workforce and community housing initiatives.	legislature, May 8, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0162_X	**Subjects** A. Revenue and Finance **M. Passed** **Position** **Monitoring**

HB 213	Ed Byrne Ed Byrne Megan Moore	Revise residential and commercial property tax rate HB 213 would have revised the property tax rate for Class Four residential and commercial property. The tax rate for Class Four residential property is 0.76% of market value, while the rate for commercial property is 1.35%.	House, May 20, 2025: (H) Died in Process	HB0213_1	**Subjects** A. Revenue and Finance **L. Dead** **Position** **Monitoring**
HB 231	Llew Jones Steve Fitzpatrick Megan Moore	Revise property tax rates for certain property This legislation would revise property tax laws in Montana, focusing on class four residential and commercial properties. It introduces a lower tax rate for certain owner-occupied residential properties and long-term rentals, while also providing a reduced tax rate for a portion of commercial property value.	legislature, May 19, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0231_X	**Subjects** A. Revenue and Finance **M. Passed** **Position** **Monitoring**
HB 410	Lukas Schubert Lukas Schubert Megan Moore	Revise laws for approval of bond elections and mill levy elections This bill would have revised the laws governing bond and mill levy elections, allowing for majority approval during primary or general elections in even-numbered years, contingent upon a minimum voter turnout of 35%.	House, May 20, 2025: (H) Died in Process	HB0410_1	**Subjects** A. Revenue and Finance **L. Dead** **Position** **Opposing**
HB 461	Greg Oblander Greg Oblander Megan Moore	Provide exemption for certain owner-occupied residential property owned by persons 67 or older HB 461 would have provided a property tax exemption for certain residential properties occupied by owners aged 67 or older who have owned the property for at least 5 years. The exemption would have applied to the amount by which the market value in the tax year exceeds the market value in the base year.	House, May 20, 2025: (H) Died in Process	HB0461_1	**Subjects** A. Revenue and Finance **L. Dead** **Position** **Monitoring**
HB 489	Greg Oblander Tom France Megan Moore	Revise sales tax laws to provide for local option tax This bill would allow local governments to implement a local option tax, contingent upon voter approval, to provide relief for property taxes on primary residences and long-term rentals, with a maximum rate set at 4%. The bill specifies that 90% of the revenue generated must be allocated for property tax relief, while also ensuring that some of this relief is passed on to renters of long-term rentals.	House, May 20, 2025: (H) Died in Process	HB0489_1	**Subjects** A. Revenue and Finance **L. Dead** **Position** **Supporting**
HB 507	Brad Barker Brad Barker Megan Moore	Constitutional amendment for sales tax to fund K-12 education HB 507 proposed a constitutional amendment to introduce a 4% sales and use tax in Montana to reduce property taxes that fund K-12 education.	House, May 20, 2025: (H) Died in Process	HB0507_1	**Subjects** A. Revenue and Finance **L. Dead** **Position** **Monitoring**
HB 528	Ed Byrne Ed Byrne Jaret Coles	Revise property tax rates for agricultural, residential, and commercial property 528 revises laws related to the regulation of medical marijuana. It modifies definitions, licensing requirements for dispensaries and cultivation facilities, packaging and labeling standards, advertising restrictions, and the process for inspections and enforcement.	House, May 22, 2025: (H) Died in Process	HB0528_2	**Subjects** A. Revenue and Finance **L. Dead** **Position** **Monitoring**
HB 552	James Reavis James Reavis Jameson Walker	Revise worker's compensation law to cover PTSD for first responders and others HB 552 would have revised worker's compensation law to cover PTSD for first responders and others.	House, May 20, 2025: (H) Died in Process	HB0552_2	**Subjects** A. Revenue and Finance **L. Dead** **Position** **Monitoring**
HB 756	John Fitzpatrick John Fitzpatrick Andria Hardin	Revise criteria for historic grant preservation program HB 756 revises the Montana Museums Act of 2020, focusing on grant recommendations under the Historic Preservation Grant Program. It specifies that government applicants, including Montana municipalities, must comply with ethics and local government sections of the Montana constitution and titles, potentially affecting their eligibility and application process for these grants.	legislature, May 19, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0756_X	**Subjects** A. Revenue and Finance **M. Passed** **Position** **Monitoring**
HB 784	Scott Rosenzweig Scott Rosenzweig Megan Moore	Revise distribution of revenue for local government roads HB 784 would have significantly altered the distribution of road construction and maintenance funds, potentially reducing allocations to cities and towns. The shift towards vehicle miles traveled as a primary factor could have disadvantaged municipalities with lower traffic volumes but substantial infrastructure needs.	House, May 20, 2025: (H) Died in Process	HB0784_1	**Subjects** A. Revenue and Finance **L. Dead** **Position** **Opposing**
HB 799	Terry Falk Terry Falk Toni Henneman	Allow property owners to vote in voted levy elections HB 799 would have expanded voting rights in mill levy elections to non-resident property owners, diluting the voting power of local residents. This change could have led to decisions that don't reflect the best interests of the community's full-time inhabitants.	House, May 20, 2025: (H) Died in Process	HB0799_1	**Subjects** A. Revenue and Finance **L. Dead** **Position** **Opposing**

HB 831	George Nikolakakos George Nikolakakos Megan Moore	Increase elderly homeowner and renter income tax credit HB 831 revises the elderly homeowner and renter income tax credit by redefining household income, increasing the maximum credit amount, and revising the phaseout of the credit. The bill also includes an inflationary adjustment for the maximum credit amount and the income at which the credit phases out.	House, Jul 23, 2025: (H) Veto Override Failed in Legislature	HB0831_X	**Subjects** A. Revenue and Finance **L. Dead** **Position** **Monitoring**
HB 836	Scott Rosenzweig Scott Rosenzweig Megan Moore	Provide for a property tax deferral loan program HB 836establishes a property tax deferral loan program, providing essential relief to homeowners facing financial hardship. By allowing eligible residents to defer a portion of their property taxes, the bill helps prevent displacement, particularly among seniors and low-income individuals, and promotes housing stability within our communities.	Senate, May 22, 2025: (S) Died in Standing Committee	HB0836_2	**Subjects** A. Revenue and Finance **L. Dead** **Position** **Supporting**
HB 862	Llew Jones Llew Jones Julie Johnson	Authorize transfers and other necessary measure to implement HB 2 section C HB 862 would have mandated a $100 transfer from Montana's general fund to the fire suppression account by July 1, 2025, as directed by the General Appropriations Act.	House, May 20, 2025: (H) Died in Process	HB0862_1	**Subjects** A. Revenue and Finance **L. Dead** **Position** **Monitoring**
HB 863	Llew Jones Llew Jones Julie Johnson	Generally revise state finance laws This legislation revises Montana's state finance laws, covering areas from the Board of Investments' duties to a study on executive agency structure. It also requests a special session by the governor under specific federal actions.	legislature, May 19, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0863_X	**Subjects** A. Revenue and Finance **M. Passed** **Position** **Monitoring**
HB 864	David Bedey Llew Jones Julie Johnson	Authorize transfers and other necessary measure to implement HB 2 section E HB 864 expands the use of the school facility and technology account, revises definitions, and provides for transfers to and from the Community College FTE Adjustment Account. It also increases the resident nonbeneficiary student payment for tribal colleges and calls for a study on interlibrary resource sharing programs and the structure of the Office of Public Instruction.	legislature, May 19, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0864_X	**Subjects** A. Revenue and Finance **M. Passed** **Position** **Monitoring**
HB 865	Ken Walsh Llew Jones Megan Moore	Revise government entity limitations on property tax increases This will would provide municipalities with more flexibility in managing property tax revenues in the face of economic shifts. The legislation would allow for the creation of a large taxpayer reserve account to help local governments prepare for potential revenue losses from major taxpayers, while the increasing the inflation limitation allowing for more sustainable funding of essential services.	House, May 20, 2025: (H) Died in Process	HB0865_1	**Subjects** A. Revenue and Finance **L. Dead** **Position** **Supporting**
HB 870	Jane Gillette Jedediah Hinkle Julie Johnson	Revise laws related to surplus revenue HB 80 would have allocated a one-time $120,000 appropriation from Montana's general fund to the Department of Justice to address recruitment and retention at the State Crime Lab, with any unspent funds reverting back to the general fund.	House, May 20, 2025: (H) Died in Process	HB0870_1	**Subjects** A. Revenue and Finance **L. Dead** **Position** **Monitoring**
HB 887	Jane Gillette Daniel Zolnikov Megan Moore	Provide property tax relief funded with lodging tax revenue This bill would have modified how lodging facility tax proceeds are allocated for various uses, including tourism promotion, historical sites, university research, and state park maintenance.	House, May 20, 2025: (H) Died in Process	HB0887_1	**Subjects** A. Revenue and Finance **L. Dead** **Position** **Monitoring**
HB 892	Jane Gillette Matt Regier Megan Moore	Revise allocation of the insurance premium tax to fund property tax relief HB 892 would have revised laws related to the regulation of public utilities. It aimed to modify the definition of "public utility," alter the authority of the Public Service Commission (PSC) regarding rate regulation, and change the process for utility rate adjustments.	House, May 20, 2025: (H) Died in Process	HB0892_1	**Subjects** A. Revenue and Finance **L. Dead** **Position** **Monitoring**
HB 894	Sherry Essmann Sherry Essmann Megan Moore	Revising property appraisal to use an average value HB 894 would have revised the appraisal of property for tax purposes to use an average value amending sections of the Montana Code Annotated (MCA) relating to appraisal and assessment procedures.	House, May 20, 2025: (H) Died in Process	HB0894_2	**Subjects** A. Revenue and Finance **L. Dead** **Position** **Monitoring**
HB 903	Lukas Schubert Lukas Schubert Megan Moore	Provide for class of property for manufacturing for property tax purposes HB 903 would have introduced a new class of manufacturing property for property tax purposes in Montana defining "class nineteen property" as land and improvements used for manufacturing, excluding property already classified as class eight property. Manufacturing property includes the transformation of materials into new products and the assembly of component parts for non-construction purposes. The bill specified that class nineteen property would be taxed at 1.47% of its market value and this new classification would apply to property tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2026.	House, May 20, 2025: (H) Died in Process	HB0903_1	**Subjects** A. Revenue and Finance **L. Dead** **Position** **Monitoring**

HB 905	Greg Overstreet Jedediah Hinkle Megan Moore	Providing for a refund of property taxes for failure to abate a public nuisance HB 905 would have allowed property owners to seek property tax refunds if local governments fail to address nuisances like illegal camping, loitering, or substance use. Refunds would be capped at the previous year's property taxes and could be challenged in court, placing the burden of proof on local governments.	House, May 20, 2025: (H) Died in Process	HB0905_1	**Subjects** A. Revenue and Finance **L. Dead** **Position** **Opposing**
HB 914	Scott Rosenzweig Scott Rosenzweig Julie Johnson	Generally revise allocation of lodging facility use taxes HB 914 revises the **allocation of lodging facility use tax** proceeds to enhance funding for **county and municipal roads and infrastructure**, establishing new **special revenue accounts** for each. For Montana municipalities, this ensures **more equitable funding** for local road projects, especially in smaller towns, and **adjusts allocations for inflation**, supporting long-term infrastructure sustainability.	House, May 20, 2025: (H) Died in Process	HB0914_1	**Subjects** A. Revenue and Finance **L. Dead** **Position** **Supporting**
HB 916	Mike Vinton Matt Regier Megan Moore	Revise lodging tax allocation related to property tax relief HB 916 aimed to provide property tax assistance for primary residences funded with lodging tax revenue. Starting January 1, 2025, a portion of the lodging tax revenue will be deposited into the state property tax assistance account.	House, May 20, 2025: (H) Died in Process	HB0916_1	**Subjects** A. Revenue and Finance **L. Dead** **Position** **Monitoring**
HB 920	Amy Regier Dave Fern Jaret Coles	Provide property tax exemption for senior care facilities and housing HB 920, the "Senior Care Facilities and Housing Development Exemption Act", revises property taxes for senior care and housing in Montana. It introduces a temporary tax exemption for senior care and housing development projects, contingent on local government approval. The bill details the petition process, eligibility criteria, and conditions for granting, renewing, or terminating the exemption. Tax-exempt sponsors must report activities annually. This act applies to property tax years beginning after December 31, 2025.	legislature, May 19, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0920_X	**Subjects** A. Revenue and Finance **M. Passed** **Position** **Monitoring**
HB 924	Llew Jones Llew Jones Julie Johnson	Generally revise state finance laws HB 924 creates the Montana Growth and Opportunity Trust, funded by volatile revenues, to support various initiatives like property tax relief and early childhood programs, while also reorganizing state finance laws and shifting housing loan funding. The bill aims to enhance financial stability and economic development through strategic revenue allocation and fund management.	legislature, Jun 20, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0924_X	**Subjects** A. Revenue and Finance **M. Passed** **Position** **Supporting**
HB 926	Jerry Schillinger Matt Regier Julie Johnson	Revise state finance laws related to the debt free account and the coal trust fund HB 926 would have revised laws related to youth court procedures, particularly concerning youth who commit certain offenses while placed out of their home. It would have allowed for the transfer of certain cases to district court and specified procedures for detention, hearings, and disposition in these cases.	House, May 20, 2025: (H) Died in Process	HB0926_1	**Subjects** A. Revenue and Finance **L. Dead** **Position** **Monitoring**
HB 932	Ken Walsh Becky Edwards Julie Johnson	Generally revise conservation financing laws HB 932 would significantly increase conservation funding in Montana by establishing a new Habitat Legacy Account, primarily funded by marijuana revenue, and revising the Wildlife Habitat Improvement Advisory Council's role. This bill aims to bolster wildlife and water conservation efforts across the state through enhanced project funding and management.	legislature, May 19, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0932_X	**Subjects** A. Revenue and Finance **M. Passed** **Position** **Supporting**
HJ 28	Luke Muszkiewicz Luke Muszkiewicz Matthew Weaver	Interim study to identify and improve access to federal grant opportunities for the state of Montana, tribal governments, and local government entities HB 8 **calls for an interim study** to improve access to **federal grant opportunities** for Montana's state, tribal, and local governments, focusing on **disparities in grant utilization** between rural and larger communities. For municipalities, this study could lead to **better access to federal funding**, ensuring **more equitable opportunities** for smaller communities to secure resources for local projects and needs.	House, May 6, 2025: (H) Filed with Secretary of State	HJ0028_X	**Subjects** A. Revenue and Finance **Position** **Supporting**
SB 2	Greg Hertz Revenue Interim Committee Revenue Interim Committee	Revise treatment of tax increment upon expiration of tax increment financing provision This bill severely restricts the ability of cities and towns to capture new revenue from tax increment financing (TIF) districts. By excluding the release of incremental taxable value from the definition of newly taxable property, it prevents municipalities from using these funds to support essential services like police, fire, infrastructure, and public works.	Senate, May 23, 2025: (S) Died in Standing Committee	SB0002_2	**Subjects** A. Revenue and Finance E. Tax Increment Financing **L. Dead** **Position** **Opposing**
SB 7	Wendy McKamey State Administration and Veterans' Affairs Interim Committee State Administration and Veterans' Affairs Interim Committee	Repeal of retirement criteria change for HPORS and SRS This bill revises the retirement criteria for the Highway Patrol Officers' Retirement System and the Sheriffs' Retirement System. It establishes that members hired on or after July 1, 2023, are eligible for nonforfeitable service retirement benefits after completing 20 years of service and reaching the age of 50.	Senate, May 13, 2025: (S) Vetoed by Governor	SB0007_X	**Subjects** A. Revenue and Finance **L. Dead** **Position** **Monitoring**

SB 32	Jeremy Trebas Jeremy Trebas Megan Moore	Generally revise property taxes This bill would shift more of the property tax burden onto residential and commercial property owners while reducing tax rates for certain industries, such as mining and agriculture. By lowering tax rates for high-value properties like metal mines and nonproductive mining claims while increasing rates on homes and businesses, cities and towns may see reduced overall tax revenues which could strain local budgets, making it harder to fund essential services like police, fire protection, infrastructure maintenance, and public works.	Senate, May 23, 2025: (S) Died in Process	SB0032_2	**Subjects** A. Revenue and Finance **L. Dead** **Position** **Opposing**
SB 56	Mike Cuffe State Administration and Veterans' Affairs Interim Committee State Administration and Veterans' Affairs Interim Committee	Supplemental employer contribution for PERS, HPORS, SRS, GWPORS This bill strengthens the long-term financial stability of public employee retirement systems.	legislature, May 13, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	SB0056_X	**Subjects** A. Revenue and Finance **M. Passed** **Position** **Supporting**
SB 90	Carl Glimm Barry Usher Megan Moore	Redistribute certain state tax revenue to primary residence property tax relief SB 90 aims to provide property tax assistance for primary residences, funded by reallocating lodging and rental car tax revenues, which may reduce funds available for local tourism and infrastructure. While it does not impact mill levy calculations, it modifies tax lien procedures which may force cities and towns to coordinate with counties and the Department of Revenue on certification processes.	Senate, May 23, 2025: (S) Died in Process	SB0090_3	**Subjects** A. Revenue and Finance **L. Dead** **Position** **Monitoring**
SB 102	Becky Beard Becky Beard Megan Moore	Revise calculation of state education levies This bill would have limited the growth of education levy revenues without addressing rising costs or the needs of growing communities, potentially shifting more pressure onto local governments to fill funding gaps. By capping state education levies at a 3% increase, the bill could reduce overall funding stability for schools, affect local services that rely on strong public education systems, and set a precedent for restricting local revenue flexibility.	Senate, May 23, 2025: (S) Died in Process	SB0102_1	**Subjects** A. Revenue and Finance **L. Dead** **Position** **Opposing**
SB 104	Gayle_Lammers Josh Kassmier Julie Johnson	Expanding access to low-cost capital to certain eligible projects and entities SB 104 increases the Montana Facility Finance Authority's bond issuance cap from $500 million to $1.5 billion, with a biennial inflationary adjustment, to expand low-cost capital access for 501(c)(3) entities and public-benefit facilities. This bill impacts municipalities by potentially increasing funding for local community projects, such as healthcare and educational facilities, through expanded bond financing options.	legislature, Apr 17, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	SB0104_X	**Subjects** A. Revenue and Finance **M. Passed** **Position** **Monitoring**
SB 108	Greg Hertz Greg Hertz Megan Moore	Require levies or bonds for judgments, settlements, or protested taxes to be submitted to voters SB 108 would have required voter approval for property tax levies and bond issuances to satisfy legal judgments or settlements, severely limiting municipalities' ability to manage unexpected financial obligations. This mandate would have created significant uncertainty and potential delays in addressing legal liabilities, jeopardizing essential services and fiscal stability.	House, May 23, 2025: (H) Died in Standing Committee	SB0108_2	**Subjects** A. Revenue and Finance **L. Dead** **Position** **Opposing**
SB 117	Daniel Zolnikov Daniel Zolnikov Megan Moore	Revise government entity limitations on property tax increases This bill increases the inflationary growth factor for cities and towns to 4%, but reduces the amount of newly taxable that a local government can add to each year's total taxes assessed. All newly taxable is currently included in the following year's total taxes assessed for purposes of calculating the following year's mill values. Under SB 117, as amended in Senate Finance and Claims, all Class 1, 2, and 4 would be reduced to 75% of newly taxable, and the remaining classes, including TIF values upon sunset, would be reduced to 40%. For all classes set at 40% of newly taxable, the local government is authorized to create a reserve account into which it may place taxes assessed on an additional 10% of newly taxable to be used for economic development, infrastructure, and housing expenses if a large taxpayer ceases operations or significantly reduces operations.	legislature, May 13, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	SB0117_X	**Subjects** A. Revenue and Finance **M. Passed** **Position** **Monitoring**
SB 122	Forrest Mandeville Forrest Mandeville Rebecca Power	Revising the actuarially determined employer contribution rate and setting a minimum contribution rate SB 122 would have revised employer contribution rates for retirement systems affecting law enforcement, requiring counties to levy taxes on taxable property if general revenue is insufficient to cover these costs.	Senate, May 23, 2025: (S) Died in Process	SB0122_1	**Subjects** A. Revenue and Finance **L. Dead** **Position** **Monitoring**
SB 152	Dave Fern Dave Fern Julie Johnson	Constitutional amendment to revise investment restrictions of coal trust fund SB 152 proposed a constitutional amendment to allow up to 25% of Montana's coal severance tax trust fund to be invested in private corporate stock. This amendment would have been presented to Montana voters in the November 2026 general election.	Senate, May 23, 2025: (S) Died in Process	SB0152_1	**Subjects** A. Revenue and Finance **L. Dead** **Position** **Monitoring**
SB 171	Dave Fern Pat Flowers Julie Johnson	Transfer a portion of ending fund balance into the coal trust fund SB 171 would have modified the allocation of Montana's excess general fund money, directing funds to the budget stabilization reserve, capital developments, and the coal severance tax permanent fund, while reducing the percentage retained in the general fund.	House, May 23, 2025: (H) Died in Standing Committee	SB0171_1	**Subjects** A. Revenue and Finance **L. Dead** **Position** **Monitoring**

SB 189	Mary Ann Dunwell Mary Ann Dunwell Megan Moore	Lower residential, commercial, and agricultural property tax rates SB 189 would have significantly reduced property tax rates for agricultural, residential, and commercial properties. This change would have resulted in a substantial decrease in revenue for cities and towns, impacting their ability to fund essential services and infrastructure projects.	Senate, May 23, 2025: (S) Died in Process	SB0189_1	**Subjects** A. Revenue and Finance **L. Dead** **Position** **Monitoring**
SB 204	Greg Hertz Greg Hertz Megan Moore	Sunset or reapprove existing voter approved property tax levies SB 204 would change the duration of all voted mill levies to end after 10 years unless reapproved, including those that already exist (with specific impact for current voted mills) and those that would be voted on in the future. The bill would limit the ability of voters to pass voted levies with a majority vote. This encourages residents NOT to vote and makes it harder to pass important voted levies to support critical local services, from 9-1-1 emergency response to street repairs.	Senate, May 23, 2025: (S) Died in Process	SB0204_2	**Subjects** A. Revenue and Finance **L. Dead** **Position** **Opposing**
SB 205	Greg Hertz Greg Hertz Megan Moore	Revise laws related to voter approval for property tax levies and bonds SB 205 proposes amendments to Montana's bond and mill levy election approval thresholds, increasing electors' percentages and mandating voter turnout requirements.	Senate, May 23, 2025: (S) Died in Process	SB0205_1	**Subjects** A. Revenue and Finance **L. Dead** **Position** **Opposing**
SB 237	Dave Fern Dave Fern Megan Moore	Require revenue interim committee to make a recommendation about property tax rates SB 237, requires the Revenue Interim Committee to make recommendations to the legislature regarding potential revisions to property tax rates based on the Taxable Value Neutrality 1 Report, and outlines related responsibilities for the Department of Revenue.	legislature, May 13, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	SB0237_X	**Subjects** A. Revenue and Finance **M. Passed** **Position** **Monitoring**
SB 287	Wendy McKamey Steve Fitzpatrick Julie Johnson	Generally revise state finance laws SB 287 revises Montana's state finance laws by splitting investment income between the general fund and a capped debt reduction account, increasing employer retirement contributions, and mandating specific fund transfers and reporting requirements to improve financial stability and retirement system health.	Senate, May 23, 2025: (S) Died in Process	SB0287_3	**Subjects** A. Revenue and Finance **L. Dead** **Position** **Monitoring**
SB 289	Denley Loge Denley Loge Jaret Coles	Provide county notification for certain property tax adjustments This bill enhances transparency and provides crucial information to local governments regarding significant property value decreases. This allows counties and municipalities to better anticipate and manage potential revenue fluctuations, which are vital for budgeting and providing essential local services.	legislature, May 8, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	SB0289_X	**Subjects** A. Revenue and Finance **M. Passed** **Position** **Supporting**
SB 307	Tom McGillvray Tom McGillvray Megan Moore	Reallocate Montana marijuana tax revenue SB 307 would have revised the distribution of marijuana tax revenue in Montana, allocating funds for prevention services, marijuana law enforcement, and local law enforcement grants establishing a Marijuana Tax Revenue Accountability Council to advise on fund expenditure and prepare a marijuana impact report. It would have also increased funding to the HEART account.	Senate, May 23, 2025: (S) Died in Process	SB0307_3	**Subjects** A. Revenue and Finance **L. Dead** **Position** **Monitoring**
SB 327	Greg Hertz Greg Hertz Casey Pallister	Revise motor vehicle registration fees SB 327 reduces vehicle registration fees that could lead to decreased funding for local infrastructure projects, such as road maintenance and public transportation, impacting the ability of cities and towns to provide essential services.	House, May 23, 2025: (H) Died in Standing Committee	SB0327_2	**Subjects** A. Revenue and Finance **L. Dead** **Position** **Opposing**
SB 337	Greg Hertz Greg Hertz Jaret Coles	Provide a 5 year prepaid property tax exemption during subdivision development SB 337 revises property taxes for subdivision development projects by providing a temporary tax exemption for property within a residential subdivision development project. It also allows for the prepayment of property taxes that would have been collected if the property was not undergoing development.	legislature, May 16, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	SB0337_X	**Subjects** A. Revenue and Finance **M. Passed** **Position** **Monitoring**
SB 351	Matt Regier Matt Regier Megan Moore	Limit the state's ability to bank statewide mills SB 351 would have revised property tax laws, specifically addressing the authority to carry forward mills. It would have clarified that the authority to carry forward mills does not apply to certain state mills, and detailed the procedure for calculating levies, including provisions for newly taxable property and adjustments for inflation.	Senate, May 23, 2025: (S) Died in Process	SB0351_1	**Subjects** A. Revenue and Finance **L. Dead** **Position** **Monitoring**
SB 409	Daniel Zolnikov Daniel Zolnikov Matthew Weaver	Generally revise laws related to the department of commerce This bill aims to update Montana's laws concerning the regulation of cannabis. It proposes changes to the taxation of cannabis products, the licensing of cannabis businesses, and the enforcement of regulations within the industry.	legislature, May 16, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	SB0409_X	**Subjects** A. Revenue and Finance **M. Passed** **Position** **Monitoring**

SB 424	Ellie Boldman Ellie Boldman Griffin Burns	Revising the disabled veteran property tax assistance program SB 424 revises the disabled veteran property tax assistance program to include veterans rated between 80% to 90% disabled. It amends sections 15-6-301 and 15-6-311 of the Montana Code Annotated defining terms to clarify eligibility. The changes apply to property tax years beginning after December 31, 2025.	Senate, Jul 14, 2025: (S) Veto Override Failed in Legislature	SB0424_X	**Subjects** A. Revenue and Finance **L. Dead** **Position** **Monitoring**
SB 434	Wylie Galt Brandon Ler Jaret Coles	Provide property tax rebate on principal residence based on taxes paid SB 434 would have provided a property tax rebate of up to $400 for tax year 2024 on a principal residence occupied by the taxpayer. It outlines definitions, claim procedures, limitations, and appeals, and includes penalties for fraudulent claims. The rebate is not subject to Montana individual income tax.	House, May 23, 2025: (H) Died in Standing Committee	SB0434_1	**Subjects** A. Revenue and Finance **L. Dead** **Position** **Monitoring**
SB 504	Cora Neumann Cora Neumann Toni Henneman	Provide grants for permanent supportive housing facilities SB 504 would have created a Permanent Supportive Housing Development Grant Program, allocating up to $75 million to nonprofit organizations for housing projects that provide long-term leases and support services for individuals experiencing or at risk of homelessness. It would have established a dedicated state special revenue account and sets eligibility criteria and disbursement guidelines for the grants.	Senate, May 23, 2025: (S) Died in Process	SB0504_1	**Subjects** A. Revenue and Finance **L. Dead** **Position** **Supporting**
SB 510	Willis Curdy Willis Curdy Joseph Carroll	Revise urban transportation district laws SB 510 would have mandated the election of urban transportation district commissioners, removing local government flexibility in board appointments. It also would have restricted local governments' ability to require land additions to districts for development, and allow for land removal without debt liability after five years of no service, potentially destabilizing district funding and planning.	Senate, May 23, 2025: (S) Died in Process	SB0510_1	**Subjects** A. Revenue and Finance **L. Dead** **Position** **Opposing**
SB 534	Greg Hertz Wendy McKamey Jaret Coles	Provide property tax exemption for wireless infrastructure SB 534, effective July 1, 2025, revises property tax abatements for communication and internet property and exempts specific wireless infrastructure from property taxation. The bill amends sections of the Montana Code Annotated (MCA) related to property tax, particularly sections 15-6-135, 15-6-156, 15-6-219, and 15-6-243, and applies to fiber optic or coaxial cable and wireless infrastructure placed in service on or after the effective date.	legislature, May 16, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	SB0534_X	**Subjects** A. Revenue and Finance **M. Passed** **Position** **Monitoring**
SB 536	Greg Hertz Greg Hertz Jaret Coles	Revise contractor gross receipts tax SB 536 revises the contractor's gross receipts tax, providing an exemption for certain individuals and businesses in good standing, with an application required. It also defines that a credit may be claimed by an employee stock ownership plan company, extends the timeframe to claim the credit, and allows the credit to offset certain real property taxes.	Senate, Jun 12, 2025: (S) Veto Override Failed in Legislature	SB0536_X	**Subjects** A. Revenue and Finance **L. Dead** **Position** **Monitoring**
SB 537	Daniel Zolnikov Daniel Zolnikov Matthew Weaver	Generally revise marijuana tax laws SB 537 generally revises how marijuana tax revenue is distributed. It establishes accounts like the Habitat Legacy Account and the Land and Wildlife Stewardship State Special Revenue Account, and also provides funding for law enforcement and homeless shelters.	Senate, Jul 11, 2025: (S) Veto Override Failed in Legislature	SB0537_X	**Subjects** A. Revenue and Finance **L. Dead** **Position** **Monitoring**
SB 539	Greg Hertz Greg Hertz Jaret Coles	Revise property taxes and special assessments SB 539 restricts local governments' revenue-generating abilities by narrowly defining special assessments and exempting certain properties, while also increasing administrative burdens and reducing local control. This shift could force increased costs onto residents and businesses, impacting essential services.	House, May 23, 2025: (H) Died in Standing Committee	SB0539_1	**Subjects** A. Revenue and Finance **L. Dead** **Position** **Opposing**
SB 542	Wylie Galt Mike Cuffe Megan Moore	Generally revise property tax laws This bill changes Montana's property tax laws by reducing property tax rates for Class 3 and 4 properties. The bill provides 3 tiers of lower rates for tax year 2026 and 7 tiers of lower rates for 2027 and subsequent tax years, with a one-time property tax rebate in 2025 of $400. Once implemented, property tax rates will be higher for second homes and short-term rental property than for primary residences and long-term rentals. The bill requires local governments with charter mill caps to reset those mills in fiscal year 2026 to generate the same amount of property taxes assessed in fiscal year 2025. For other voted mill levies, local government may either similarly reset the value of those mills or convert them to dollar levies tied to the inflationary factor of 15-10-420.	legislature, May 19, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	SB0542_X	**Subjects** A. Revenue and Finance **M. Passed** **Position** **Monitoring**
SB 544	Greg Hertz Greg Hertz Jaret Coles	Revise income tax laws for net operating loss carryovers SB 544 revises Montana's laws regarding the use of drones, also known as unmanned aircraft systems. It establishes regulations for drone operation, including restrictions on flying over critical infrastructure and requirements for law enforcement agencies regarding data collection and use. This bill could impact Montana municipalities by setting guidelines for local drone ordinances and influencing how law enforcement agencies within those municipalities can utilize drone technology.	legislature, May 13, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	SB0544_X	**Subjects** A. Revenue and Finance **M. Passed** **Position** **Monitoring**
SJ 8	Greg Hertz Greg Hertz Megan Moore	Request interim study of property tax special districts SJ 8 requests an interim legislative study of Montana's special districts, focusing on categorization, funding, data availability, potential limits, and reporting requirements, with a report due to the 70th Legislature. This resolution impacts municipalities by potentially leading to legislative changes in special district governance and funding, which could affect local service delivery and property tax structures.	Senate, Mar 6, 2025: (S) Returned from Enrolling	SJ0008_X	**Subjects** A. Revenue and Finance **Position** **Monitoring**

SJ 38	Mary Ann Dunwell Mary Ann Dunwell Megan Moore	Provide for study of property taxes SJ 38 requests an interim committee or statutory committee to study Montana's property tax system, including tax classes, rates, valuation methods, exemptions, and potential consolidation and equalization options. The study results are to be reported to the 70th Legislature.	House, May 23, 2025: (H) Died in Standing Committee	SJ0038_2	**Subjects** A. Revenue and Finance **L. Dead** **Position** **Monitoring**

Infrastructure

Bill	Sponsors	Title	Last Action	Latest Version	Lists
HB 6	John Fitzpatrick Office of Budget and Program Planning by Legislative Council Office of Budget and Program Planning	Renewable resource grants This bill provides critical infrastructure funding to local governments. The bill sponsor proposed an amendment reducing the amount of funding available for projects by $5,244,500 (just over half of the original amount) for the next biennium. The League urged the Committee find other revenue sources to restore these funding sources, such as the approximate $3.4 billion available in state general fund revenue	legislature, May 16, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0006_X	**Subjects** B. Infrastructure **M. Passed** **Position** **Supporting**
HB 7	John Fitzpatrick Office of Budget and Program Planning by Legislative Council Office of Budget and Program Planning	Reclamation and development grants This bill provides critical infrastructure funding to local governments. The bill sponsor proposed an amendment reducing the amount of funding by $4,086,767 (more than half of the original amount) for the next biennium. The League urged the Committee find other revenue sources to restore these funding sources, such as the approximate $3.4 billion available in state general fund revenue.	legislature, May 16, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0007_X	**Subjects** B. Infrastructure **M. Passed** **Position** **Supporting**
HB 8	John Fitzpatrick Office of Budget and Program Planning by Legislative Council Office of Budget and Program Planning	Renewable resource bonds and loans HB 8 would enable the DNRC to provide low-interest loans for renewable resource projects, promoting investment in sustainable energy infrastructure across Montana. By reauthorizing certain projects and allocating significant coal severance tax bonds, the bill aims to facilitate the development of these crucial initiatives.	legislature, May 8, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0008_X	**Subjects** B. Infrastructure **M. Passed** **Position** **Supporting**
HB 9	John Fitzpatrick Office of Budget and Program Planning by Legislative Council Office of Budget and Program Planning	Cultural and aesthetic grants HB 9 provides dedicated funding for cultural and aesthetic projects within local communities. These grants can enhance local quality of life, attract tourism, and preserve cultural heritage, all of which benefit municipalities. The bill's specific allocation to the Montana Historical Society for Capitol complex artwork also ensures the maintenance of valuable public assets.	legislature, May 19, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0009_X	**Subjects** B. Infrastructure **M. Passed** **Position** **Supporting**
HB 11	John Fitzpatrick Office of Budget and Program Planning by Legislative Council Office of Budget and Program Planning	Providing grants and appropriations through the Montana coal endowment program HB 11 appropriates funds from the Montana Coal Endowment Special Revenue Account for infrastructure projects, emergency grants, and planning grants, with specific allocations to the Department of Commerce and the Department of Natural Resources and Conservation. It outlines conditions for grant disbursement and mandates legislative review for projects not meeting requirements by September 1, 2026.	legislature, May 19, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0011_X	**Subjects** B. Infrastructure **M. Passed** **Position** **Supporting**
HB 12	John Fitzpatrick Office of Budget and Program Planning by Legislative Council Office of Budget and Program Planning	Montana historic preservation grants HB 12 allocates $6,229,375 from the historic preservation grant program to the Department of Commerce for specific historic preservation projects across Montana, with some projects removed from prior funding lists and others having their recipients amended. It emphasizes financial responsibility for grantees and mandates fund disbursement on a reimbursement basis.	legislature, May 19, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0012_X	**Subjects** B. Infrastructure **M. Passed** **Position** **Supporting**
HB 34	Larry Brewster Office of Budget and Program Planning by Legislative Council Office of Budget and Program Planning	Revise law to establish permanent disaster resilience fund This bill would have revised the Montana local disaster resiliency fund by increasing the statutory appropriation from $4 million to up to $15 million per year, starting in the fiscal year 2025. It would have eliminated the termination date of the fund, which was previously set to expire on June 30, 2025, and instead allows for ongoing funding. The bill would have also amended the eligible uses of the fund to include state and local mitigation projects aimed at reducing risks from natural disasters, as well as funding for personnel and contracted resources for mitigation program management.	House, May 20, 2025: (H) Died in Process	HB0034_1	**Subjects** B. Infrastructure **L. Dead** **Position** **Supporting**
HB 40	John Fitzpatrick Department of Environmental Quality by Water Policy Interim Committee Department of Environmental Quality	Revise public water supply fee accounts House Bill 40 establishes a special revenue account within the state fund to support the review of public water supply and sewage system plans. The bill allocates fees collected for this purpose to the account, which will be used exclusively for the Department of Environmental Quality's costs associated with implementing plan and specification reviews. Additionally, HB 40 amends existing statutes to include the creation and management of this account, aiming to streamline the funding process for these essential services.	legislature, May 8, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0040_X	**Subjects** B. Infrastructure **M. Passed** **Position** **Monitoring**
HB 63	Julie Darling Department of Administration by State Administration and Veterans' Affairs Interim Committee Department of Administration	Extend application of bond validating act HB 36 extends the Bond Validating Act by removing the previous March 16, 2023 cutoff, ensuring that municipal bonds and related proceedings issued before the bill's passage are legally validated. This provides Montana cities and towns with greater legal certainty and protection for past bond issuances.	legislature, Mar 27, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0063_X	**Subjects** B. Infrastructure **M. Passed** **Position** **Supporting**

HB 172	Zack Wirth Zack Wirth Joseph Carroll	Revise laws for prioritization of highway projects HB 172 would have altered the prioritization of transportation projects by requiring the Transportation Interim Committee to recommend projects and mandating the Transportation Commission to report on their status. 1 This could have influenced the allocation of transportation funds and the timing of infrastructure projects within cities and towns.	House, May 20, 2025: (H) Died in Process	HB0172_1	**Subjects** B. Infrastructure **L. Dead** **Position** **Monitoring**
HB 313	Paul Tuss James Reavis Toni Henneman	Establish a grant program for aquatic recreational facilities HB 313 provides crucial grant funding to local governments for the construction, maintenance, and repair of public swimming pools, addressing critical infrastructure needs in their communities. This funding helps ensure the continued availability of essential recreational and community resources for Montana residents.	House, May 22, 2025: (H) Died in Process	HB0313_5	**Subjects** B. Infrastructure **L. Dead** **Position** **Supporting**
HB 334	Brad Barker Josh Kassmier Rebecca Brown	Generally revise disaster and emergency laws The bill amends Section 10-3-312 of the Montana Code Annotated, increasing the governor's maximum allowable expenditure for emergencies from $20 million to $22 million annually. It also allows the Department of Military Affairs to use up to $3 million annually for disaster and emergency services without a governor's declaration. This increases emergency funding, potentially providing more robust financial assistance during disaster situations.	House, May 22, 2025: (H) Died in Process	HB0334_2	**Subjects** B. Infrastructure **L. Dead** **Position** **Supporting**
HB 346	Paul Tuss Steve Fitzpatrick Jason Mohr	Exempt Commerce grants and loans from MEPA This bill provides an exemption for the Department of Commerce and its affiliated entities from the Montana Environmental Policy Act (MEPA) review process for certain grant and loan programs. The programs affected include those aimed at small business development, historic preservation, job training, agritourism, cultural tourism, economic development, the wood products industry, and housing, including home loans for veterans and seniors.	legislature, May 8, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0346_X	**Subjects** B. Infrastructure **M. Passed** **Position** **Supporting**
HB 452	Gary Parry Gary Parry Julianne Burkhardt	Generally revise penalties for assaults against utility workers HB 452 would have revised penalties for assaults against utility workers in Montana. It defines the offense and outlines various scenarios constituting assault, with penalties including imprisonment and fines, depending on the severity of the assault.	House, May 20, 2025: (H) Died in Process	HB0452_1	**Subjects** B. Infrastructure **L. Dead** **Position** **Monitoring**
HB 466	John Fitzpatrick John Fitzpatrick Jason Mohr	Provide categorical exclusions from MEPA HB 466 aims to streamline environmental regulations in Montana by reducing bureaucratic hurdles for cities and towns in the state, particularly regarding construction and maintenance projects. This could lead to more efficient project approvals and potentially stimulate economic activity within Montana's municipalities.	legislature, May 5, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0466_X	**Subjects** B. Infrastructure **M. Passed** **Position** **Supporting**
HB 505	Mike Vinton Josh Kassmier Julie Johnson	Allow Montana housing infrastructure revolving loan fund to retain its interest and income and provide for fund transfers This bill would provide a total of $100 million from the general fund to the Montana housing infrastructure revolving loan fund account to fund housing and housing infrastructure and create funding opportunities for renters to become homeowners.	legislature, May 19, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0505_X	**Subjects** B. Infrastructure **M. Passed** **Position** **Supporting**
HB 511	Scott DeMarois Marc Lee Laura Sherley	Provide grant funding for firefighting training facilities HB 511 would establish a Firefighting Training Facility Grant Program aimed at funding capital construction, maintenance, repair projects, and equipment purchases for local government firefighting authorities in Montana.	House, Jun 27, 2025: (H) Veto Override Failed in Legislature	HB0511_X	**Subjects** B. Infrastructure **L. Dead** **Position** **Supporting**
HB 579	John Fitzpatrick John Fitzpatrick Toni Henneman	Require local governments to fund capital reserve accounts before receiving certain grants and loans This legislation revises the Renewable Resource Grant and Loan Program and the Montana Coal Endowment Program by establishing new requirements for local governments seeking funding The bill would make it harder for cities and towns to access critical infrastructure funding by requiring local governments to establish and continuously fund a capital reserve account well in advance of applying for grants or loans. The bill forces municipalities, especially smaller communities with limited budget, to set aside money they may not have, potentially delaying or preventing much-needed infrastructure improvements.	House, May 20, 2025: (H) Died in Process	HB0579_1	**Subjects** B. Infrastructure **L. Dead** **Position** **Opposing**
HB 615	Jerry Schillinger Matt Regier Julie Johnson	Revise allocations of coal trust revenue This bill would have redirected interest from the Coal Severance Tax Permanent Fund primarily to state highway programs, potentially at the expense of local priorities like libraries, conservation districts, and community development.	House, May 20, 2025: (H) Died in Process	HB0615_1	**Subjects** B. Infrastructure **L. Dead** **Position** **Opposing**
HB 901	Steve Gist Steve Gist Toni Henneman	Create a fire department health and safety grant program HB 901 establishes a **Fire Department Health and Safety Grant Program**, providing up to **$10,000 in funding** for fire departments to purchase safety equipment and materials. For Montana municipalities, this bill supports **firefighter health and safety**, particularly for **rural and budget-conscious departments**, enhancing public safety and emergency response capabilities.	House, Jun 16, 2025: (H) Veto Override Failed in Legislature	HB0901_X	**Subjects** B. Infrastructure **L. Dead** **Position** **Supporting**

HB 941	Anthony Nicastro Matt Regier Julie Johnson	Revise state finance laws related to ARPA interest and the coal trust fund This bill bolsters the coal severance tax permanent fund with ARPA interest earnings, providing a potentially larger and more stable funding source for local infrastructure and services. This increased funding could aid municipalities in addressing long-term needs and reduce reliance on other, potentially less reliable, revenue streams.	House, May 20, 2025: (H) Died in Process	HB0941_1	**Subjects** B. Infrastructure **L. Dead** **Position** **Supporting**
HB 951	Jerry Schillinger Courtenay Sprunger Julie Johnson	Transferring funds to local road and bridge account HB 951 would have directed the state treasurer to transfer $30 million from the general fund to the local road and bridge account by July 15, 2025 - taking effect on July 1, 2025.	House, May 20, 2025: (H) Died in Process	HB0951_1	**Subjects** B. Infrastructure **L. Dead** **Position** **Monitoring**
HJ 15	Greg Kmetz Janet Ellis Griffin Burns	Resolution supporting increased transmission capacity in Montana HJ 15 supports increasing Montana's transmission capacity. It emphasizes that upgrading electric transmission infrastructure within Montana and across state borders is essential for affordable and reliable electricity, which is fundamental for stable economic growth and suggests prioritizing Montana-based labor for these projects.	House, May 6, 2025: (H) Filed with Secretary of State	HJ0015_X	**Subjects** B. Infrastructure **Position** **Monitoring**
SB 232	Matt Regier Matt Regier Julie Johnson	Revise state procurement laws related to entitles that are exempt from the RFP process. SB 232 requires cities in Montana with populations of at least 5,000 residents to permit duplex housing on all lots where single-family residences are allowed, and cities with populations of at least 50,000 residents must also allow triplex and fourplex housing on such lots. The bill stipulates that zoning regulations for these multi-family housing types cannot be more restrictive than those for single-family residences.	legislature, Jun 13, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	SB0232_X	**Subjects** B. Infrastructure **M. Passed** **Position** **Monitoring**
SB 267	Dave Fern Dave Fern Megan Moore	Provide a tax credit for charitable gifts to public infrastructure SB 267 would have created a tax credit for charitable gifts to certified public infrastructure projects, potentially influencing local government funding. 1 This credit could have incentivized private donations for city and town projects, but also may have shifted funding priorities.	Senate, May 23, 2025: (S) Died in Process	SB0267_1	**Subjects** B. Infrastructure **L. Dead** **Position** **Monitoring**
SB 324	Josh Kassmier Josh Kassmier Jaret Coles	Revise vehicle registration fees and allocate revenue for bridges and victims of crime SB 324 revises vehicle registration fees by introducing an assessment fee based on the manufacturer's suggested retail price for the first 11 years of registration for certain vehicles. It also establishes state special revenue accounts for these fees, allocating a portion to the Board of Crime Control for victim services and another portion to the Department of Transportation for grants to local governments for bridge projects.	Senate, May 23, 2025: (S) Died in Process	SB0324_3	**Subjects** B. Infrastructure **L. Dead** **Position** **Monitoring**
SB 343	Dave Fern Dave Fern Jaret Coles	Revert revenue from coal tax to coal trust SB 343 would have modified laws concerning the regulation of vehicle dealers and the sale of vehicles - revising definitions, clarifies licensing requirements for dealers, addresses unfair trade practices, and updates regulations related to vehicle consignment and dealer responsibilities.	House, May 23, 2025: (H) Died in Standing Committee	SB0343_2	**Subjects** B. Infrastructure **L. Dead** **Position** **Monitoring**

Housing

Bill	Sponsors	Title	Last Action	Latest Version	Lists
HB 21	Larry Brewster Local Government Interim Committee Local Government Interim Committee	Establish a Montana workforce housing tax credit HB 21 would create a workforce housing tax credit, incentivizing investment in qualified housing projects across Montana aiming to address the state's housing shortage by making such projects more financially viable for developers, ultimately increasing the availability of affordable workforce housing.	House, May 20, 2025: (H) Died in Process	HB0021_1	**Subjects** C. Housing **L. Dead** **Position** **Supporting**
HB 120	Julie Darling Steve Fitzpatrick Julie Johnson	Revise commercial property assessed clean energy laws HB 120 amends Montana's Commercial Property-Assessed Capital Enhancements Act, expanding multifamily housing financing opportunities by defining 'multifamily housing facility' as properties with five or more residential units. This bill impacts municipalities by potentially increasing the availability of financing for multifamily housing development, which could affect local housing markets and community development.	legislature, Apr 7, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0120_X	**Subjects** C. Housing **M. Passed** **Position** **Monitoring**
HB 154	Jonathan Karlen Pat Flowers Megan Moore	Establish a housing fairness tax credit This bill aimed to alleviate housing costs for Montanans meeting specific income and residency requirements.	Senate, May 22, 2025: (S) Died in Standing Committee	HB0154_2	**Subjects** C. Housing **L. Dead** **Position** **Supporting**
HB 310	Melissa Nikolakakos	Establish grant program to increase community shelter capacity for homeless population	House, May 20, 2025: (H) Died in Process	HB0310_2	**Subjects** C. Housing **L. Dead**

	Melissa Nikolakakos Chanan Brown	HB 310 would have created a grant program, with $2 million in state matching funds, to increase community shelter capacity for Montana's homeless population, prioritizing projects based on need and impact.			**Position** **Supporting**
HB 378	Debo Powers Debo Powers Toni Henneman	Remove the restriction on inclusionary zoning This bill removes the current ban on Montana local governments requiring housing fees or property dedications for housing aimed at specific income levels or sale prices. By lifting these restrictions, it gives local governments the authority to develop their own housing policies, allowing them to address affordability challenges and housing shortages as needed.	House, May 20, 2025: (H) Died in Process	HB0378_1	**Subjects** C. Housing **L. Dead** **Position** **Supporting**
HB 878	Mark Thane Christopher Pope Toni Henneman	Authorize additional funding for coal trust loan program for housing HB 878 would have revised laws regarding the regulation of hemp in Montana. It aligns state law with federal regulations, modifies definitions, clarifies licensing requirements for hemp production, establishes testing procedures, and addresses violations and enforcement related to hemp.	House, May 20, 2025: (H) Died in Process	HB0878_1	**Subjects** C. Housing **L. Dead** **Position** **Monitoring**
SB 172	Dave Fern Pat Flowers Megan Moore	Revise resort tax eligibility and allow use for workforce housing SB 172 revises Montana's resort tax laws, allowing an additional 1% resort tax for workforce housing or infrastructure, and expands eligibility for resort communities. This bill impacts municipalities by providing new funding mechanisms for housing and infrastructure, potentially affecting local development and revenue in resort areas.	legislature, Apr 4, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	SB0172_X	**Subjects** C. Housing **M. Passed** **Position** **Monitoring**
SB 405	Dave Fern Dave Fern Toni Henneman	Provide additional funding for the housing Montana fund This bill would revise housing laws in Montana by transferring $50 million from the general fund to the Housing Montana Fund.	House, May 23, 2025: (H) Died in Standing Committee	SB0405_1	**Subjects** C. Housing **L. Dead** **Position** **Supporting**
SB 501	Laura Smith Laura Smith Matthew Weaver	Establishing the Keep Montanans Housed Act SB 501, the "Keep Montanans Housed Act," would have granted tenants a right of first refusal to purchase their rental properties before they are sold, potentially altering the rental market and property ownership dynamics within cities and towns. This could have impacted housing availability and the ability of landlords to sell properties, influencing local real estate markets.	Senate, May 23, 2025: (S) Died in Process	SB0501_1	**Subjects** C. Housing **L. Dead** **Position** **Monitoring**
SJ 44	Greg Hertz Greg Hertz Toni Henneman	Study resolution of affordable housing programs SJ 44 requests an interim study of affordable housing in Montana. The resolution calls for an evaluation of government programs' impact on housing costs, a cost-benefit analysis of state incentive programs, a review of housing choice voucher programs, and an identification of successful cost-reduction programs.	Senate, May 23, 2025: (S) Died in Process	SJ0044_1	**Subjects** C. Housing **Position** **Monitoring**
SJ 45	Mary Ann Dunwell Mary Ann Dunwell Rebecca Brown	Interim study to determine a use policy for the executive residence when the governor has an alternate residence SJ 45 requests an interim study of Montana's emergency medical services (EMS) system to examine workforce shortages, funding challenges, service delivery models, and potential legislative solutions.	Senate, May 23, 2025: (S) Died in Process	SJ0045_1	**Subjects** C. Housing **Position** **Monitoring**

Land Use and Planning

Bill	Sponsors	Title	Last Action	Latest Version	Lists
HB 427	Katie Zolnikov Daniel Zolnikov Maddie Krezowski	Require government to provide certain building code text or citation causing delay or stop HB 427 would require the state or local building code departments cite the specific code for any permit delays or construction stoppage within seven days. If this citation does not occur, the bill stipulates that those code provisions would be waived and allows for compensatory damages.	legislature, May 13, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0427_X	**Subjects** D. Land Use and Planning **M. Passed** **Position** **Monitoring**
HB 492	Katie Zolnikov Katie Zolnikov Toni Henneman	Revise municipal zoning laws related to parking requirements This bill would preempt all cities and towns in Montana from requiring more than one parking space for each newly constructed residential dwelling unit over 1,200 sf, or *any* parking requirement for: existing buildings; child-care facilities licensed or registered by the department of public health and human services; residential dwelling units under 1,200 sf; deed-restricted affordable housing; or assisted living facilities.	legislature, May 19, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0492_X	**Subjects** D. Land Use and Planning **M. Passed** **Position** **Opposing**
HB 520	Larry Brewster Larry Brewster Maddie Krezowski	Revise laws to clarify that local prohibitions on conveying family transfer parcels do not apply to conveyances involving lenders House Bill 520 clarifies that local prohibitions on conveying family transfer parcels do not apply to conveyances involving lenders. This revision ensures that lenders can accept family transfer parcels as collateral without being subject to local restrictions that typically govern such transfers. The bill aims to facilitate financing options for property owners while maintaining local control over land use and development.	legislature, May 5, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0520_X	**Subjects** D. Land Use and Planning **M. Passed** **Position** **Monitoring**
HB 523	Bill Mercer Bill Mercer Rebecca Brown	Providing for disposition of abandoned graveyard lots House Bill 523 establishes a legal framework for the disposition of abandoned lots in public cemeteries in Montana. The bill outlines requirements for determining abandonment, including a petition process, public notice, and exceptions to the abandonment criteria. It	legislature, May 5, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0523_X	**Subjects** D. Land Use and Planning **M. Passed**

		aims to address the management of unused cemetery plots and ensure proper procedures for their potential reuse.			**Position** Monitoring
HB 594	Kerri Seekins-Crowe Daniel Zolnikov Maddie Krezowski	Clarify prohibition on power of local government to require additional licensing or permitting This legislation would limit the ability of local governments to impose additional licensing or permitting requirements. The new language explicitly prohibits local governments from requiring "additional licensing, permitting, or authorization" when the state is the original issuer of such licenses, permits, or authorizations. Additionally, the bill's immediate implementation leaves municipalities with no time to adapt, creating uncertainty and potential legal conflicts between existing local regulations and the new state restrictions.	House, May 22, 2025: (H) Died in Process	HB0594_3	**Subjects** D. Land Use and Planning L. Dead **Position** Opposing
HB 614	Greg Overstreet Forrest Mandeville Toni Henneman	Allow for the termination of certain county zoning districts This bill modifies Montana's county zoning laws by enabling property owners to petition for zoning district termination via referendum and by allowing county commissioners to terminate districts under certain conditions, aiming to provide more flexibility in land use management.	legislature, May 5, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0614_X	**Subjects** D. Land Use and Planning M. Passed **Position** Monitoring
HB 713	Larry Brewster Larry Brewster Toni Henneman	Revise municipal zoning laws HB 713 revises Montana's municipal zoning laws, providing methods to establish, amend, or repeal certain regulations, restrictions, or boundaries. It amends section 76-2-303, MCA, and repeals section 76-2-305, MCA, which concerns a method of protest for altering zoning regulations.	legislature, May 13, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0713_X	**Subjects** D. Land Use and Planning M. Passed **Position** Monitoring
HB 714	Larry Brewster Larry Brewster Toni Henneman	Revise laws for divisions of land exempt from subdivision review HB 714 revises Montana laws concerning land divisions exempt from subdivision review. It mandates governing bodies to review specific land divisions and aggregations, requiring applicants to notify neighboring property owners and allowing for public hearings, increasing violation fines and using a provided affidavit form to determine evasion of requirements.	legislature, May 13, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0714_X	**Subjects** D. Land Use and Planning M. Passed **Position** Monitoring
HB 802	Shannon Maness Daniel Zolnikov Toni Henneman	Revise zoning laws related to the rental of a primary residence HB 802 would have significantly limited local governments' ability to regulate short-term rentals, undermining municipal zoning authority. This restriction could have negatively impacted neighborhood stability, housing availability, and local tax revenue.	House, May 20, 2025: (H) Died in Process	HB0802_1	**Subjects** D. Land Use and Planning L. Dead **Position** Opposing
HB 871	Steve Fitzpatrick Steve Fitzpatrick Toni Henneman	Revise requirements to connect to municipal water/sewer system HB 871 would strip municipalities of their zoning authority, potentially leading to uncontrolled development outside city limits. This loss of control could strain existing infrastructure, disrupt planned growth, and limit the city's ability to manage its resources and future development, all while undermining local land-use planning.	House, May 20, 2025: (H) Died in Process	HB0871_2	**Subjects** D. Land Use and Planning L. Dead **Position** Monitoring
HJ 30	Julie Darling Julie Darling Toni Henneman	Study resolution on incentivizing housing density and affordability This joint resolution of the Montana Legislature urges the United States Congress to take action ensuring continued access to and affordability of telehealth services for Medicare beneficiaries. It highlights the benefits of telehealth, particularly for rural populations, and expresses concern over potential limitations to these services.	House, May 6, 2025: (H) Filed with Secretary of State	HJ0030_X	**Subjects** D. Land Use and Planning **Position** Supporting
SB 121	Forrest Mandeville Forrest Mandeville Maddie Krezowski	Revise the land use and planning act This bill provides beneficial clarification to the Montana Land Use and Planning Act. The bill revises the Act to enhance local government authority over development applications and public notice requirements. It allows cities to maintain extraterritorial zoning authority and mandates public hearings before planning commissions consider appeals. Key amendments include the insertion of language that clarifies local governments' decision-making power on development applications and the requirement for public participation plans in agency actions. The bill also updates definitions related to agency actions and land divisions excluded from subdivision review, while clarifying the notice requirements for adequate stormwater drainage and municipal facilities. Additionally, the bill would establish clearer procedures for appealing land use decisions, requiring written appeals to be submitted within 15 business days.	legislature, May 13, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	SB0121_X	**Subjects** D. Land Use and Planning M. Passed **Position** Supporting
SB 133	Greg Hertz Greg Hertz Maddie Krezowski	Revise impact fee laws This bill would revise local government impact fee laws in Montana by removing the allowed administration fee and establishing that impact fees cannot increase more than the rate of inflation.	legislature, May 13, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	SB0133_X	**Subjects** D. Land Use and Planning M. Passed **Position** Opposing
SB 146	Becky Beard Becky Beard Toni Henneman	Creating the private property protection act This bill would have prohibited local governments from enforcing restrictions on the use of private property and undermine all housing zoning reforms and the positive land use and planning legislation achieved last session in addition to sparking needless litigation without creating more affordable housing.	Senate, May 23, 2025: (S) Died in Process	SB0146_2	**Subjects** D. Land Use and Planning L. Dead **Position** Opposing
SB 168	Greg Hertz Greg Hertz Maddie Krezowski	Revise laws related to lakeshore protection SB 168 limits the ability of local governments to enforce lakeshore protection regulations by imposing a strict three-year statute of limitations on violations. This could allow harmful, unpermitted construction to remain in place if not addressed within the timeframe, even if it negatively impacts water quality, aquatic life, or public access. Additionally, the bill's	legislature, May 8, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	SB0168_X	**Subjects** D. Land Use and Planning M. Passed

		exemptions for minor modifications may weaken local oversight, making it harder to ensure responsible development along Montana's lakeshores.			**Position** Opposing
SB 174	Forrest Mandeville Forrest Mandeville Maddie Krezowski	Providing that recreational vehicles and mobile homes are reviewed as buildings for rent or lease SB 174 revises Montana laws regarding the review of buildings for lease or rent, including recreational vehicles and mobile homes as buildings for subdivision review. It also amends sections of the Montana Code Annotated related to subdivision regulations, park dedication requirements, and growth policy compliance.	legislature, May 16, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	SB0174_X	**Subjects** D. Land Use and Planning **M. Passed** **Position** Monitoring
SB 175	Forrest Mandeville Forrest Mandeville Maddie Krezowski	Allowing for streamlined public hearing notice process when revising zoning SB 175 revises county zoning amendment procedures, mandating noticed public meetings and detailed public hearing notices, including the availability of proposed changes for public inspection. This bill affects municipalities by potentially influencing intergovernmental coordination on zoning matters and increasing procedural requirements for counties, which may impact development and planning processes within or adjacent to municipal boundaries.	legislature, Apr 17, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	SB0175_X	**Subjects** D. Land Use and Planning **M. Passed** **Position** Monitoring
SB 213	Daniel Zolnikov Daniel Zolnikov Maddie Krezowski	Revise the state building code to allow single stairwells in certain buildings SB 213 modernizes the state building code to allow single-stair multifamily buildings, which reduces construction costs and supports the development of more affordable housing. This change helps municipalities encourage higher-density, infill development and better address local housing needs.	legislature, May 8, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	SB0213_X	**Subjects** D. Land Use and Planning **M. Passed** **Position** Supporting
SB 214	Greg Hertz Greg Hertz Toni Henneman	Revise zoning laws to clarify decisions regarding prior nonconforming use of property SB 214 revises the laws governing the Montana Land Information Act, including updating definitions, clarifying the duties and responsibilities of the state and the Montana Land Information Advisory Council, and modifying provisions related to funding and grants for land information projects.	legislature, May 8, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	SB0214_X	**Subjects** D. Land Use and Planning **M. Passed** **Position** Monitoring
SB 239	Forrest Mandeville Forrest Mandeville Maddie Krezowski	Requiring judges to invite amicus briefing and allow intervention in certain civil cases SB 239 revises laws related to the regulation of certain health care facilities, including updating definitions, modifying licensing requirements and procedures for various facilities like assisted living facilities and residential care facilities, and addressing related operational aspects.	Senate, May 12, 2025: (S) Vetoed by Governor	SB0239_X	**Subjects** D. Land Use and Planning **L. Dead** **Position** Monitoring
SB 243	Ellie Boldman Kenneth Bogner Maddie Krezowski	Amend zoning regulations to allow taller buildings This bill mandates that all second and first-class cities must allow the multiple-unit dwellings and mixed-use developments permitted use on all parcel or lot located in a commercial zone to be constructed up to six stories in height.	legislature, May 16, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	SB0243_X	**Subjects** D. Land Use and Planning **M. Passed** **Position** Monitoring
SB 252	Dave Fern Dave Fern Toni Henneman	Revise land use laws related to manufactured and factory built homes This bill would restrict cities and towns from regulating manufactured and factory-built housing through municipal zoning. It prohibits municipalities from distinguishing between these housing types and traditional residential units which would disregard local planning and community needs.	legislature, May 8, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	SB0252_X	**Subjects** D. Land Use and Planning **M. Passed** **Position** Supporting
SB 266	Jeremy Trebas Jeremy Trebas Toni Henneman	Revise municipal zoning to allow for triplex and fourplex housing This bill mandates that all second and first-class cities must allow triplex and fourplex residential construction on any lot where a single-family residence is a permitted use.	Senate, May 23, 2025: (S) Died in Process	SB0266_2	**Subjects** D. Land Use and Planning **L. Dead** **Position** Opposing
SB 275	Forrest Mandeville Forrest Mandeville Maddie Krezowski	Allow revocation of agricultural covenant on lands annexed into municipality This bill amends Section 76-3-211, MCA to allow a governing body to revoke an agricultural covenant, enabling the division of land to proceed without subdivision review if the land is annexed into a municipality. The bill specifies that the governing body may revoke the covenant if the original lot lines are restored or if a government entity seeks to use the land for public purposes. The new provision added allows for the revocation of the covenant specifically when the land is annexed into a municipality. Additionally, HB 275 outlines the process for revoking a covenant and timelines that have to be followed.	legislature, Apr 18, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	SB0275_X	**Subjects** D. Land Use and Planning **M. Passed** **Position** Monitoring
SB 304	Dave Fern Dave Fern Jason Mohr	Revise Montana lakeshore laws SB 304 would have revised the Lakeshore Protection Act, granting governing bodies the authority to issue stop-work orders, require surety bonds, and place liens on properties for violations, thus strengthening their ability to enforce the Act and ensure lakeshore restoration. The bill also encouraged cooperation between governing bodies to establish compatible permit criteria and enforcement provisions.	Senate, May 23, 2025: (S) Died in Process	SB0304_1	**Subjects** D. Land Use and Planning **L. Dead** **Position** Monitoring
SB 336	Greg Hertz Greg Hertz Toni Henneman	Revise laws related to short-term rentals This bill would redefine short-term rentals as a residential use of property, rather than a commercial activity. SB 336 is problematic for cities and towns because it limits their regulation of short-term rentals. By restricting local governments from effectively managing their growth and impact. Additionally, "protecting existing short-term rentals from future regulations" prevents cities from adapting policies to meet evolving community needs.	House, May 23, 2025: (H) Died in Standing Committee	SB0336_2	**Subjects** D. Land Use and Planning **L. Dead**

					Position **Opposing**
SB 363	Daniel Zolnikov Daniel Zolnikov Milly Allen	Revising the definition of a tourist home SB 363 would have revised the definition of a "tourist home" in Montana law, specifying it as a private home or condominium, not occupied by an owner or manager, rented in its entirety to transient guests on a daily or weekly basis.	House, May 23, 2025: (H) Died in Standing Committee	SB0363_1	**Subjects** D. Land Use and Planning **L. Dead** **Position** **Monitoring**
SB 381	Daniel Emrich Daniel Emrich Maddie Krezowski	Provide for Montana's future homesteading act SB 381 would have made certain state-owned lands available for homesteading, potentially influencing land use and development patterns near cities and towns. This change could have affected local housing markets and infrastructure planning, depending on the location and accessibility of the homesteading parcels.	Senate, May 23, 2025: (S) Died in Process	SB0381_1	**Subjects** D. Land Use and Planning **L. Dead** **Position** **Monitoring**
SB 400	Kenneth Bogner Kenneth Bogner Maddie Krezowski	Provide for property owners to vote to add, remove, amend easements and covenants SB 400 would have revised laws related to special improvement districts (SIDs) in Montana modifying the petition process for creating or extending SIDs, and changing the procedures for levying assessments, potentially impacting how municipalities could finance local infrastructure projects.	House, May 23, 2025: (H) Died in Standing Committee	SB0400_2	**Subjects** D. Land Use and Planning **L. Dead** **Position** **Monitoring**
SB 404	Dave Fern Dave Fern Jaret Coles	Require reporting of building permits for appraisal information SB 404 requires local governments and the Department of Labor and Industry to notify the Department of Revenue about new construction permits within one month of issuance, providing detailed location information. This aims to improve the Department of Revenue's tracking of new construction for property assessment purposes.	legislature, May 8, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	SB0404_X	**Subjects** D. Land Use and Planning **M. Passed** **Position** **Supporting**
SB 458	Kenneth Bogner Kenneth Bogner Maddie Krezowski	Revise commercial property assessed capital enhancement program laws SB 458 revises the laws governing elections, specifically concerning voter registration deadlines, the process for removing electors from the official register, and procedures related to election administrators' duties.	legislature, May 8, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	SB0458_X	**Subjects** D. Land Use and Planning **M. Passed** **Position** **Monitoring**
SB 477	Theresa Manzella Theresa Manzella Maddie Krezowski	Revise subdivision family transfer laws SB 477 would have added new requirements for land divisions exempt from subdivision review, including mandatory public hearings and affidavits. This could have increased administrative burdens on local governments and property owners, affecting land development processes within cities and towns.	Senate, May 23, 2025: (S) Died in Process	SB0477_1	**Subjects** D. Land Use and Planning **L. Dead** **Position** **Monitoring**
SB 502	Laura Smith Laura Smith Megan Moore	Revising laws related to transfer of a single-family dwelling SB 502 would have restricted investment firms from purchasing single-family dwellings within the first 45 days of listing, potentially altering the real estate market dynamics within cities and towns. This change could have affected housing availability and affordability, influencing local housing markets.	Senate, May 23, 2025: (S) Died in Process	SB0502_1	**Subjects** D. Land Use and Planning **L. Dead** **Position** **Monitoring**
SB 505	Bob Phalen Bob Phalen Maxwell Parson	Generally revise zoning laws to prohibit the construction of wind generation facilities. SB 505 would have granted local governments the explicit authority to prohibit the construction of wind generation facilities within their jurisdictions. 1 This change could have significantly impacted renewable energy development in Montana, potentially altering the landscape of energy production and related economic activities within cities and towns.	Senate, May 23, 2025: (S) Died in Process	SB0505_1	**Subjects** D. Land Use and Planning **L. Dead** **Position** **Monitoring**
SB 532	Forrest Mandeville Forrest Mandeville Toni Henneman	Revise county zoning to allow accessory dwelling units SB 532 revises county zoning laws to allow for accessory dwelling units, requiring counties to adopt certain regulations and prohibiting others. It also allows counties to charge a fee to review applications for creating these units	legislature, May 16, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	SB0532_X	**Subjects** D. Land Use and Planning **M. Passed** **Position** **Monitoring**

Tax Increment Financing

Bill	Sponsors	Title	Last Action	Latest Version	Lists
SB 2	Greg Hertz Revenue Interim Committee Revenue Interim Committee	Revise treatment of tax increment upon expiration of tax increment financing provision This bill severely restricts the ability of cities and towns to capture new revenue from tax increment financing (TIF) districts. By excluding the release of incremental taxable value from the definition of newly taxable property, it prevents municipalities from using these funds to support essential services like police, fire, infrastructure, and public works.	Senate, May 23, 2025: (S) Died in Standing Committee	SB0002_2	**Subjects** A. Revenue and Finance E. Tax Increment Financing **L. Dead** **Position** **Opposing**
HB 19	Larry Brewster Revenue Interim Committee Revenue Interim Committee	Require public hearing before certain tax increment financing bonding HB 19 revises the definition of "resort community" to include municipalities with a population of up to 7,500, expanding the potential for these communities to levy resort taxes and broadens the ability of smaller municipalities to utilize resort tax revenue for infrastructure and services, addressing the impacts of tourism.	House, Feb 27, 2025: (H) Signed by Governor	HB0019_X	**Subjects** E. Tax Increment Financing **M. Passed** **Position** **Supporting**
HB 451	Mark Thane Mark Thane Megan Moore	Revise tax increment financing districts to exclude debt service and certain school levies HB 451 **updates tax increment financing (TIF) laws** by **excluding certain school and debt service levies** from tax increment calculations for newly created districts. This benefits Montana municipalities by **clarifying TIF funding rules**, ensuring **predictable revenue for urban renewal and economic development**, and **returning excess funds to local taxing jurisdictions**, promoting **fair and transparent financial management**.	House, May 22, 2025: (H) Died in Process	HB0451_2	**Subjects** E. Tax Increment Financing **L. Dead** **Position** **Monitoring**
LC 1021	Greg Hertz Megan Moore	Generally revise tax increment finance district laws	House, May 23, 2025: (LC) Draft Died in Process		**Subjects** E. Tax Increment Financing **Position** **Monitoring**
LC 1022	Greg Hertz Megan Moore	Generally revise tax increment finance district laws	House, May 23, 2025: (LC) Draft Died in Process		**Subjects** E. Tax Increment Financing **Position** **Monitoring**
LC 4110	Mark Thane Megan Moore	Revise tax increment finance districts and targeted economic development districts	House, May 22, 2025: (LC) Draft Died in Process		**Subjects** E. Tax Increment Financing **Position** **Monitoring**
SB 1	Greg Hertz Revenue Interim Committee Revenue Interim Committee	Revise definition of "blighted area" This bill revises the definition of blighted area and a statement of policy for municipalities using urban renewal powers, including tax increment financing (TIF). This bill will require a municipality to determine a blighted area by selecting three characteristics or conditions under the definition of blighted area in this new legislation.	legislature, Apr 4, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	SB0001_X	**Subjects** E. Tax Increment Financing **M. Passed** **Position** **Supporting**
SB 3	Jeremy Trebas Revenue Interim Committee Revenue Interim Committee	Require advisory committee for districts that use tax increment financing This bill establishes a TIF advisory board in a Urban Renewal Area (where one does not currently exist) which is intended to increase participation from other taxing jurisdictions that overlap the TIF district.	legislature, Apr 4, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	SB0003_X	**Subjects** E. Tax Increment Financing **M. Passed** **Position** **Supporting**

Water & Wastewater

Bill	Sponsors	Title	Last Action	Latest Version	Lists
HB 4	Llew Jones Office of Budget and Program Planning by Legislative Council Office of Budget and Program Planning	Appropriations by budget amendment HB 4 **extends state funding into fiscal years 2026 and 2027**, ensuring continued support for **critical municipal services**, including **infrastructure, public safety, and environmental programs**. This benefits Montana municipalities by **preventing funding gaps, maintaining essential services, and supporting long-term community development projects**.	legislature, Jun 20, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0004_X	**Subjects** F. Water & Wastewater **M. Passed** **Position** **Supporting**
HB 48	Ken Walsh Department of Natural Resources and Conservation by Water Policy Interim Committee Department of Natural Resources and Conservation	Exempt wastewater ponds from dam safety act HB 48 amends Montana's Dam Safety Act, exempting dams used for public sewage systems from certain safety regulations. This bill impacts municipalities by clarifying regulations for public sewage infrastructure, potentially affecting local wastewater management and infrastructure development.	legislature, Apr 18, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0048_X	**Subjects** F. Water & Wastewater **M. Passed** **Position** **Monitoring**
HB 180	Courtenay Sprunger Courtenay Sprunger Toni Henneman	Revise sanitation in subdivision laws related to mixing zones This bill would revise sanitation laws related to subdivisions in Montana by prohibiting local boards of health from adopting regulations that would permit a mixing zone to encroach on adjacent properties. The bill includes a new provision that prohibits the construction of a subsurface wastewater treatment system if the associated mixing zone would encroach onto adjacent property, with exceptions as allowed in existing law. The bill would allow local boards of health to propose regulations for the control and disposal of sewage and allow these boards to enforce compliance with lawfully adopted regulation.	legislature, May 6, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0180_X	**Subjects** F. Water & Wastewater **M. Passed** **Position** **Monitoring**
HB 256	Ken Walsh Ken Walsh Julie Johnson	Creation of Montana water trust and special revenue accounts Takes a crucial step toward strengthening Montana's water infrastructure by establishing the Montana Water Development State Special Revenue Account. This dedicated fund will support essential water storage projects and dam inspections, ensuring sustainable water management for communities across the state. This bill would transfer $100 million from the general fund to help secure Montana's water resources.	House, May 20, 2025: (H) Died in Process	HB0256_1	**Subjects** F. Water & Wastewater **L. Dead** **Position** **Supporting**
HB 432	Julie Darling Ken Walsh Alexis Sandru	Revise water laws concerning exceptions to change in appropriation right process HB 432 **streamlines Montana's water rights change process**, allowing municipalities and water districts to **adjust water use locations without prior approval** under specific conditions. This benefits Montana cities and towns by **reducing bureaucratic delays, enhancing water system flexibility, and ensuring efficient management of municipal water resources** while maintaining protections for existing rights.	legislature, May 19, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0432_X	**Subjects** F. Water & Wastewater **M. Passed** **Position** **Supporting**
HB 441	Russ Miner Ken Walsh Alexis Sandru	Align provisional water rights with final decrees This bill would amend Montana's water laws to improve the alignment of provisional water rights with final decrees and clarify the procedures for post-decree petitions concerning the modification, reduction, or revocation of permits.	legislature, May 8, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0441_X	**Subjects** F. Water & Wastewater **M. Passed** **Position** **Supporting**
HB 498	Lukas Schubert Daniel Emrich Maxwell Parson	Prohibit adding fluoride to public water supply systems HB 498 would have prohibited the fluoridation of public water supply systems in Montana.	House, May 20, 2025: (H) Died in Process	HB0498_1	**Subjects** F. Water & Wastewater **L. Dead** **Position** **Monitoring**
HB 534	Courtenay Sprunger Llew Jones Jason Mohr	Allow county water and/or sewer districts to connect to a system beyond capacity House Bill 534 allows eligible county water and sewer districts to connect to a water or wastewater system beyond its rated capacity if authorized by an approved development plan. The bill provides rulemaking authority and amends several sections of the Montana Code Annotated to facilitate these connections.	legislature, May 13, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0534_X	**Subjects** F. Water & Wastewater **M. Passed** **Position** **Monitoring**
HB 580	Joshua Seckinger Joshua Seckinger Jason Mohr	Clarify water right abandonment HB 580 protects Montana municipalities' water rights during droughts by ensuring that reduced or ceased water use, aligning with drought management plans, doesn't lead to automatic abandonment of those rights. This provides municipalities with flexibility in water management during dry periods without jeopardizing their long-term water access.	legislature, May 13, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0580_X	**Subjects** F. Water & Wastewater **M. Passed** **Position** **Supporting**
HB 629	Steve Fitzpatrick Steve Fitzpatrick Alexis Sandru	Revise laws related to a proposed subdivision's connection to a public water supply or wastewater system HB 629 would mandate that municipal and county water or sewer systems accept connection requests from proposed subdivisions located within 501 to 1,000 feet of existing infrastructure, provided certain conditions are met. This requirement could impose significant burdens on local governments by compelling them to extend services without adequate consideration of capacity, funding, or long-term planning.	legislature, May 5, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0629_X	**Subjects** F. Water & Wastewater **M. Passed** **Position** **Opposing**
HB 657	Steve Gist Steve Gist Toni Henneman	Allow municipalities to review certain water and sewer systems HB 657 would have granted Montana cities and towns the authority to review and approve the design and construction of public water and sewer systems, requiring them to employ a licensed engineer and establish review programs aiming to ensure local oversight and compliance with state environmental and property laws.	House, May 20, 2025: (H) Died in Process	HB0657_1	**Subjects** F. Water & Wastewater **L. Dead**

					Position **Supporting**
HB 664	Bill Mercer Bill Mercer Jason Mohr	Repeal numeric nutrient standards This bill would significantly change Montana's water quality standards by eliminating existing numeric nutrient standards and replacing them with narrative nutrient standards. Additionally, the bill calls for the repeal of the Nutrient Work Group, which previously advised on nutrient standards.	legislature, May 5, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0664_X	**Subjects** F. Water & Wastewater **M. Passed** **Position** **Supporting**
HB 676	Brandon Ler Brandon Ler Jason Mohr	Generally revise state land and water laws HB 676 revises laws related to state lands and water rights. It eliminates the water court's duty to adjudicate water rights by July 1, 2030, and prohibits the board of land commissioners from obtaining ownership of private water rights used on state lands. It also mandates the sale of isolated parcels with water rights to lessees and repeals sections related to the adjudication of water rights.	House, May 13, 2025: (H) Vetoed by Governor	HB0676_X	**Subjects** F. Water & Wastewater **L. Dead** **Position** **Monitoring**
HB 681	John Fitzpatrick Ken Walsh Alexis Sandru	Revise subdivision regulation laws involving determination of water availability HB 681 provides clear criteria for evaluating water rights and subdivision applications, helping local governments make informed decisions about development while safeguarding public health and resources. By requiring governing bodies to base decisions solely on established criteria, it ensures more predictable and consistent regulations. Additionally, the bill promotes responsible development by ensuring adequate water and septic systems for larger subdivisions, which aligns with the League's goals of sustainable growth and community planning.	legislature, May 19, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0681_X	**Subjects** F. Water & Wastewater **M. Passed** **Position** **Supporting**
HB 684	Steve Fitzpatrick Steve Fitzpatrick Jason Mohr	Eliminate deadline for water quality data review HB 684 removes the 60-day deadline for the DEQ to review water quality assessment data, granting the department greater flexibility for thorough evaluations of threatened or impaired water bodies. While removing the deadline, the bill maintains other DEQ obligations, such as public notice and consultation with local groups, to ensure effective water quality management.	legislature, May 19, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0684_X	**Subjects** F. Water & Wastewater **M. Passed** **Position** **Supporting**
HB 685	Steve Fitzpatrick Steve Fitzpatrick Jason Mohr	Feasibility allowance for nondegradation policy This bill introduces a "feasibility allowance" that would provide municipalities with more flexibility in managing water quality while balancing economic development and regulatory compliance. By streamlining the permitting process, clarifying key definitions, and allowing for necessary degradations within reasonable limits, the bill would help cities and towns navigate environmental regulations more efficiently and cost-effectively.	legislature, May 19, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0685_X	**Subjects** F. Water & Wastewater **M. Passed** **Position** **Supporting**
HB 704	Mike Vinton John Fitzpatrick Alexis Sandru	Generally revise ground water laws This bill seeks to enhance groundwater oversight, however it does so in a way that could financially and administratively burden local governments, complicate development, and reduce local decision-making over water resources.	House, May 20, 2025: (H) Died in Process	HB0704_1	**Subjects** F. Water & Wastewater **L. Dead** **Position** **Opposing**
HB 736	Steve Fitzpatrick Steve Fitzpatrick Jason Mohr	Provide nutrient pollutant loading offsets This bill would provide municipalities with greater flexibility in meeting water quality discharge requirements by allowing nutrient pollutant loading offsets. This approach helps cities comply with regulatory standards in a more cost-effective and practical way, enabling them to invest in local water management solutions while still improving overall watershed health.	legislature, May 13, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0736_X	**Subjects** F. Water & Wastewater **M. Passed** **Position** **Supporting**
HB 886	Ken Walsh Ken Walsh Jason Mohr	Provide for water division court, judges HB 886 establishes a **Water Division Court** in Montana, designed to streamline the management and enforcement of **water rights**, with specialized judges and water commissioners handling disputes. For municipalities, this bill provides **clearer jurisdiction** over water rights cases, ensuring **better protection** of local water resources and **more efficient legal processes** for addressing water-related issues.	House, May 20, 2025: (H) Died in Process	HB0886_1	**Subjects** F. Water & Wastewater **L. Dead** **Position** **Supporting**
HB 923	Llew Jones Llew Jones Jason Mohr	Revise categorical exclusions from nondegradation authorization HB 923 revises categorical exclusions from nondegradation authorization and directs the amendment of ARM 17.30.716. It includes a $500 appropriation from the general fund to the Department of Environmental Quality for rule amendments, applying to applications received on or after May 1, 2025.	legislature, May 19, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0923_X	**Subjects** F. Water & Wastewater **M. Passed** **Position** **Monitoring**
HB 935	Morgan Thiel Russ Miner Jason Mohr	Limits to Fox Hills-Hell Creek aquifer withdrawals HB 935 addresses balancing water development and protecting existing water rights related to the Fox Hills-Hell Creek aquifer. It allows the department to suspend action on applications or close an aquifer source for ground water permits and requires a feasibility study on ground water availability.	legislature, May 19, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0935_X	**Subjects** F. Water & Wastewater **M. Passed** **Position** **Monitoring**
SB 55	Willis Curdy Water Policy Interim Committee Water Policy Interim Committee	Provide for legislative intent regarding streamflow information SB 55 establishes legislative intent to enhance streamflow information collection and distribution in Montana, promoting interagency coordination for improved water management and planning. This bill impacts municipalities by influencing state	legislature, Apr 4, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	SB0055_X	**Subjects** F. Water & Wastewater **M. Passed**

		water resource management, potentially affecting local water supply planning and infrastructure projects.			**Position** **Monitoring**
SB 76	Sue Vinton Department of Natural Resources and Conservation by Water Policy Interim Committee Department of Natural Resources and Conservation	Revise laws related to preliminary determinations for water right permits or changes in appropriations This bill revises the process for preliminary determinations regarding water right permits or changes in appropriation rights that includes the requirement for DNRC to publish notice of receipt of applications on its website and to update this notice when an application is deemed correct and complete.	Senate, Feb 28, 2025: (S) Signed by Governor	SB0076_X	**Subjects** F. Water & Wastewater **M. Passed** **Position** **Supporting**
SB 178	Sue Vinton Barry Usher Toni Henneman	Provide for temporary lease of water rights SB 178 establishes a framework for the temporary leasing of water rights in Montana, allowing appropriators to lease their rights under specific conditions. 1 It limits leases to a maximum of 40 days per year and once every ten years. The bill aims to provide clearer guidelines for water use and preservation while safeguarding the interests of appropriators engaged in conservation	legislature, May 5, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	SB0178_X	**Subjects** F. Water & Wastewater **M. Passed** **Position** **Monitoring**
SB 186	Barry Usher Barry Usher Alexis Sandru	Provide for expedited processing in district courts of water cases arising under final decrees SB 186 would have transferred water rights jurisdiction from the Montana Water Court to local district courts as final decrees are issued.	Senate, May 23, 2025: (S) Died in Process	SB0186_1	**Subjects** F. Water & Wastewater **L. Dead** **Position** **Monitoring**
SB 190	Derek Harvey Ken Walsh Alexis Sandru	Allow water right holders to consent to waive adverse effects analysis in permit or change applications This bill would streamline the permitting process for water right holders. Key changes include the insertion of language that allows applicants to waive the requirement to prove a lack of adverse effects for any water right identified in a written consent to approval filed with a permit application. The bill also specifies that individuals with a water use permit issued after a temporary change application cannot object to the change or its renewal, provided they are notified of the temporary change authorizations.	legislature, Apr 18, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	SB0190_X	**Subjects** F. Water & Wastewater **M. Passed** **Position** **Supporting**
SB 262	Forrest Mandeville Forrest Mandeville Jason Mohr	Exempt subdivision, water/sewer plans from environmental review This bill seeks to streamline the review process for subdivisions and water or sewer plans by exempting them from environmental review requirements under Title 75, chapter 1, parts 1 and 2. It also updates the Montana Code Annotated (MCA) to clarify the authority of local governments and independent reviewers in conducting these assessments. Key changes include eliminating the requirement for Montana Environmental Policy Act compliance in subdivision reviews and establishing new guidelines for local health departments employing certified professionals. Additionally, the bill allows independent reviewers to perform evaluations under specific conditions while ensuring transparency through public information request laws.	legislature, May 8, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	SB0262_X	**Subjects** F. Water & Wastewater **M. Passed** **Position** **Supporting**
SB 357	Wylie Galt Ken Walsh Jason Mohr	Extend perfection deadline for certain Missouri River water reservations This bill would help ensure that municipalities retain access to critical water reservations, allowing them to plan for future growth and secure long-term water supplies. By extending the deadline for perfection, the bill prevents municipalities from losing essential water rights due to administrative timelines, supporting sustainable development. Additionally, the periodic review and potential modification of reservations help maintain public interest and water conservation efforts, while the provision of technical and financial assistance benefits local governments navigating the water reservation process.	legislature, Apr 18, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	SB0357_X	**Subjects** F. Water & Wastewater **M. Passed** **Position** **Supporting**
SB 358	Wylie Galt Ken Walsh Jason Mohr	Revise exempt water right laws This bill would improve groundwater management and protect municipal water supplies. By strengthening monitoring, metering, and reporting requirements, it ensures better data collection for informed water management decisions. The bill also empowers municipalities by allowing them to petition for controlled groundwater areas in cases of contamination, helping safeguard public health and drinking water quality. Additionally, it provides more flexibility in groundwater use while maintaining safeguards against over-appropriation, ensuring sustainable water access for communities.	Senate, May 23, 2025: (S) Died in Process	SB0358_2	**Subjects** F. Water & Wastewater **L. Dead** **Position** **Opposing**
SB 365	Barry Usher Barry Usher Jason Mohr	Revise siltation structure capacity at mines SB 365 revises siltation structure capacity requirements for strip and underground mines, mandating structures detain water from precipitation and mine inflow, with allowances for exceeding capacity due to consecutive small storms if restoration efforts occur. While primarily impacting mining operations, this bill may indirectly affect municipalities by influencing environmental regulations and water management related to mining activities within their jurisdictions.	legislature, Apr 18, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	SB0365_X	**Subjects** F. Water & Wastewater **M. Passed** **Position** **Monitoring**
SB 436	Carl Glimm Carl Glimm Jason Mohr	Generally revise laws relating to exempt wells This bill aims to streamline groundwater appropriation, however it risks undermining local government authority, increasing resource competition, and creating potential long-term water shortages that could be costly to address.	House, May 23, 2025: (H) Died in Standing Committee	SB0436_2	**Subjects** F. Water & Wastewater **L. Dead** **Position** **Opposing**
SR 43	Wylie Galt Matt Regier Matthew Weaver	Confirm governor's appointees for board of water well contractors Senate Resolution 43 confirms the Governor's appointments of Doug Askin, Andy Eslinger, and Dan O'Keefe to the Board of Water Well Contractors, each serving terms ending in 2026 or 2027.	Senate, Apr 15, 2025: (S) Filed with Secretary of State	SR0043_X	**Subjects** F. Water & Wastewater **Position**

					Monitoring

Public Safety and Criminal Justice

Bill	Sponsors	Title	Last Action	Latest Version	Lists
HB 128	Llew Jones Llew Jones Jameson Walker	Protect volunteer emergency service providers from termination HB 128 protects volunteer emergency service providers, such as firefighters and EMTs, from job termination by public or private employers for absences related to emergency duties, provided they notify their employers. This bill could impact municipalities by ensuring the availability of volunteer emergency personnel, while also potentially creating new legal considerations for municipal employers regarding employee absences.	legislature, Apr 17, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0128_X	Subjects G. Public Safety and Criminal Justice M. Passed Position Monitoring
HB 181	Katie Zolnikov Sue Vinton Jameson Walker	Provide authority for patrol officers to make arrests on capitol complex HB 181 amends Montana Code Annotated 44-1-1003, expanding patrol officer arrest and warrant service authority to include the Capitol Complex. This bill impacts municipalities by clarifying law enforcement jurisdiction in a state-owned area that may interact with municipal boundaries and residents.	legislature, Mar 4, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0181_X	Subjects G. Public Safety and Criminal Justice M. Passed Position Monitoring
HB 191	Curtis Schomer Barry Usher Rachel Weiss	Revise crime of endangering welfare of child HB 191 amends Montana Code Annotated 45-5-622, making it a misdemeanor offense to commit partner or family member assault in the presence of a child, with separate charges per child. This bill impacts municipalities by potentially increasing caseloads for local law enforcement and courts, and affecting resources allocated to child welfare and domestic violence services.	legislature, Apr 7, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0191_X	Subjects G. Public Safety and Criminal Justice M. Passed Position Monitoring
HB 278	Nelly Nicol Nelly Nicol Rachel Weiss	Require peace officer to check and report immigration status during lawful stop HB 278 amends Montana Code Annotated 46-5-401, changing the language regarding immigration status checks during lawful stops. It authorizes and requires peace officers to attempt to determine immigration status if there is reasonable suspicion and it is practicable, while also mandating reporting of unlawful presence to federal immigration agencies. This bill could significantly impact municipal law enforcement by adding immigration status determination to their duties during lawful stops. It may also increase interactions between local law enforcement and federal immigration agencies, potentially affecting resource allocation and community relations within municipalities.	legislature, Apr 17, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0278_X	Subjects G. Public Safety and Criminal Justice M. Passed Position Monitoring
HB 333	Courtenay Sprunger Courtenay Sprunger Toni Henneman	Generally revise local law enforcement laws This bill amends Montana law to require all cities and towns to have a police department but allows third-class cities and towns to contract with other law enforcement agencies instead. If no department or agreement exists, the county sheriff must provide services, with the city or town responsible for the cost. A dispute resolution process, including mediation and binding arbitration, is established to determine fair pricing. The bill also overrides existing unfunded mandate laws, sets cost-sharing rules for dispute resolution, and includes a severability clause to ensure legal continuity.	legislature, May 5, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0333_X	Subjects G. Public Safety and Criminal Justice M. Passed Position Supporting
HB 425	Gary Parry Gary Parry Julianne Burkhardt	Generally revise victim damages when apprehending perpetrators HB 425 would have imposed new liability on peace officers and their employing agencies for damages resulting from improper searches, potentially leading to increased financial burdens on municipalities. This change could have deterred proactive policing and increased insurance costs for local governments.	House, May 20, 2025: (H) Died in Process	HB0425_1	Subjects G. Public Safety and Criminal Justice L. Dead Position Opposing
HB 493	Steven Kelly Denise Baum Sara Hess	Establish the crime of possession of stolen firearm or ammunition HB 493 establishes the crime of possessing a stolen firearm or ammunition, provides a penalty for the offense, and amends sections of the Montana Code related to youth court procedures and criminal street gang activity.	legislature, May 5, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0493_X	Subjects G. Public Safety and Criminal Justice M. Passed Position Monitoring
HB 538	Melissa Nikolakakos Melissa Nikolakakos Milly Allen	Revise 911 emergency telephone system laws HB 538 expands the 911 Advisory Council to 19 members, including representatives from various public safety and telecommunications organizations, as well as Montana League of Cities and Towns. It also updates the council's duties to include advising the Department of Administration on 911 fee allocation, grant determinations, and	legislature, May 8, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0538_X	Subjects G. Public Safety and Criminal Justice M. Passed

		statewide 911 planning. Additionally, the bill clarifies the Department's responsibilities in administering 911 funds, establishing a statewide plan, and managing grants.			**Position** Monitoring
HB 581	Denise Baum Denise Baum Rachel Weiss	Allow police chief to appoint certain officers as court officer HB 581 would have revised laws related to officers of the court. It would have allowed a police chief to appoint a special service officer as a court officer, revised the definition of "special services officer" to allow for full-time, paid officers, and allowed a court officer to transport a defendant to the place of detention.	Senate, May 22, 2025: (S) Died in Standing Committee	HB0581_2	**Subjects** G. Public Safety and Criminal Justice **L. Dead** **Position** Monitoring
HB 830	Jane Weber Jane Weber Toni Henneman	Create a local emergency quick response funding program This bill would have used statewide general fund dollars to assist only property owners outside city limits, excluding residents of incorporated cities and towns who also face natural disasters. Additionally, the program would be administered solely through conservation districts without coordination with municipal governments, raising concerns about equity, efficiency, and precedent.	House, May 20, 2025: (H) Died in Process	HB0830_1	**Subjects** G. Public Safety and Criminal Justice **L. Dead** **Position** Opposing
SB 49	Barry Usher Senate Select Committee on Judicial Oversight and Reform Senate Select Committee on Judicial Oversight and Reform	Exempt lawyers serving in certain public offices from professional disciplinary measure and proceedings for actions taken while in office Senate Bill 49 would have protected attorneys serving as constitutional officers or legislators from disciplinary measures by judicial officers for actions taken during their term, except for courtroom behavior disrupting proceedings. It would have allowed these attorneys to dismiss or quash disciplinary proceedings and applied retroactively to proceedings from January 1, 2024.	Senate, May 23, 2025: (S) Died in Process	SB0049_3	**Subjects** G. Public Safety and Criminal Justice **L. Dead** **Position** Monitoring
SB 52	Tom McGillvray Senate Select Committee on Judicial Oversight and Reform Senate Select Committee on Judicial Oversight and Reform	Create Montana Court of Chancery This bill would have established the Montana Court of Chancery, designed to enhance the timelessness of the court, particularly in business law, land use law, and constitutional law. It specifies the court's jurisdiction, which includes adjudicating cases that involve the constitutionality of legislative actions, land use permits, and business-related disputes valued over $80,000.	Senate, May 23, 2025: (S) Died in Process	SB0052_1	**Subjects** G. Public Safety and Criminal Justice **L. Dead** **Position** Opposing
SB 101	Becky Beard Becky Beard Maddie Krezowski	Revise laws related to squatting The bill proposes a misdemeanor for knowingly residing on someone else's property without consent, known as "squatting." It allows property owners or agents to request law enforcement assistance for removal and establishes a fee for such services. If passed, it would add complications to existing trespass laws, as law enforcement would be required to determine perceived landlord-tenant disagreements and interpret rental agreements.	legislature, Apr 18, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	SB0101_X	**Subjects** G. Public Safety and Criminal Justice **M. Passed** **Position** Monitoring
SB 163	Daniel Zolnikov Daniel Zolnikov Griffin Burns	Generally revise privacy laws related to biometric, genetic, and neural data SB 163 revises the Genetic Information Privacy Act to include neurotechnology data within its scope, adding legislative findings and purpose, revising exceptions, and providing protections for the privacy of neurotechnology data. It also revises provisions related to privacy notices and amends multiple sections of the Montana Code Annotated (MCA).	legislature, May 5, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	SB0163_X	**Subjects** G. Public Safety and Criminal Justice **M. Passed** **Position** Monitoring
SB 196	Jeremy Trebas Jeremy Trebas Julianne Burkhardt	Revise DUI laws regarding actual physical control SB 196 would have revised laws related to the regulation of short-term rentals in Montana defining "short-term rental" and granting local governments the authority to regulate them through zoning regulations, business licensing, and other ordinances.	Senate, May 23, 2025: (S) Died in Process	SB0196_1	**Subjects** G. Public Safety and Criminal Justice **L. Dead** **Position** Monitoring
SB 264	Russ Tempel Russ Tempel Joseph Carroll	Eliminate a defense to the vehicle noise statute SB 264 revises laws concerning the regulation of pharmacy benefit managers (PBMs), including updating definitions, requiring licensure, establishing certain operational requirements related to network adequacy and grievance procedures, and outlining enforcement mechanisms.	legislature, May 8, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	SB0264_X	**Subjects** G. Public Safety and Criminal Justice **M. Passed** **Position** Monitoring
SB 282	Daniel Emrich Daniel Emrich Joseph Carroll	Limit state government use of personal electronic data SB 282 revises search and seizure laws, requiring a search warrant for the state and local governments to obtain and use electronic communications and related materials. It also limits the admissibility of stored data from electronic devices obtained in violation of the statute.	legislature, May 8, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	SB0282_X	**Subjects** G. Public Safety and Criminal Justice **M. Passed**

					Position **Monitoring**
SB 288	Denley Loge Denley Loge Laura Sherley	Expedite seized property after law investigation SB 288 establishes new evidentiary seizure guidelines for law enforcement weapons in officer-involved shootings, mandating weapon collection, documentation, and testing, followed by return to the agency within seven days after investigation completion. This bill impacts municipalities by standardizing the handling of law enforcement weapons involved in shootings, potentially affecting local law enforcement procedures and resource allocation during investigations.	legislature, Apr 18, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	SB0288_X	**Subjects** G. Public Safety and Criminal Justice **M. Passed** **Position** **Monitoring**
SB 362	Tony Tezak Daniel Zolnikov Toni Henneman	Revise firefighter qualifications 362 revises the qualifications for municipal firefighters, allowing a fire chief's discretion in qualifying individuals with certain felony convictions, and amends sections 7-33-4107 and 7-33-4108 of the Montana Code Annotated (MCA).	legislature, May 8, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	SB0362_X	**Subjects** G. Public Safety and Criminal Justice **M. Passed** **Position** **Monitoring**
SB 398	Mike Yakawich Mike Yakawich Toni Henneman	Revise laws related to collections-related actions in municipal court **SB 398** increases the **monetary cap for municipal court cases** from **$25,000 to $50,000**, allowing cities to handle larger claims locally instead of relying on district courts. This change **streamlines the legal process**, reduces costs, and improves efficiency for municipalities dealing with contract disputes, collections, and other legal matters.	legislature, May 8, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	SB0398_X	**Subjects** G. Public Safety and Criminal Justice **M. Passed** **Position** **Supporting**
SB 508	Willis Curdy Willis Curdy Julianne Burkhardt	Generally revise driving under the influence laws for THC levels in drivers under 21 SB 508 amends Montana law, stating that any level of THC in drivers under 21 is DUI. For all drivers, a THC level of 5 ng/ml or more is DUI. The bill grants Montana municipalities the authority to enact this as a local ordinance, giving them jurisdiction over enforcement and penalties.	legislature, May 8, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	SB0508_X	**Subjects** G. Public Safety and Criminal Justice **M. Passed** **Position** **Monitoring**

Transportation

Bill	Sponsors	Title	Last Action	Latest Version	Lists
LC 1322	Jedediah Hinkle Joseph Carroll	Revise speed limit laws	House, May 26, 2025: (LC) Draft Died in Process		**Subjects** G. Public Safety and Criminal Justice H. Transportation J. Local Authority **Position** **Monitoring**
HB 42	Denise Baum Transportation Interim Committee Transportation Interim Committee	Revise laws related to highways and transportation for clarity and consistency HB 42 revises Montana's highway and transportation laws by clarifying definitions, streamlining abandonment processes, and emphasizing sustainable practices. It also modifies procedures for county road management and highway property transactions, aiming for greater clarity and efficiency within Title 60 of the MCA.	Senate, Apr 24, 2025: (S) First Reading	HB0042_X	**Subjects** H. Transportation **L. Dead** **Position** **Supporting**
HB 345	Jerry Schillinger Josh Kassmier Rebecca Brown	Revise MDT and transportation commission roles in transit The bill specifies that MDT shall allocate federal transit administration funds and other related resources for rail or transit intermodal transportation systems, while the Transportation Commission retains authority to transfer federal funds between qualified programs and delegate certain functions to MDT	legislature, May 8, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0345_X	**Subjects** H. Transportation **M. Passed** **Position** **Monitoring**
HB 487	Julie Darling Josh Kassmier Casey Pallister	Eliminate requirement that the Dept of Transportation have certain divisions House Bill 487 eliminates the statutory requirement for the Montana Department of Transportation to maintain specific divisions, such as highways, aeronautics, administration, rail and transit, and motor carrier services. The bill allows the department to establish any divisions deemed necessary, providing greater flexibility in its organizational structure.	legislature, May 5, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0487_X	**Subjects** H. Transportation **M. Passed** **Position** **Monitoring**
HB 588	Neil Duram Neil Duram Casey Pallister	Defining and regulating motorized scooters HB 588 revises transportation laws in Montana, focusing on bicycles and motorized scooters. It clarifies the rights and responsibilities of operators of these vehicles, granting them the same rights and duties as drivers of traditional vehicles. The bill aims to enhance safety in urban areas by addressing traffic safety concerns related to alternative modes of transportation.	legislature, May 19, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0588_X	**Subjects** H. Transportation **M. Passed** **Position** **Monitoring**

HB 672	Courtenay Sprunger Courtenay Sprunger Griffin Burns	Generally revise Montana department of transportation's utility relocation process HB 672 revises laws regarding utility relocations, granting the Department of Transportation rulemaking authority to ensure timely and accurate relocations and installations. It establishes timelines and reduces reimbursement for delays, while also providing limited liability to the department for removals.	legislature, May 8, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0672_X	**Subjects** H. Transportation **M. Passed** **Position** **Monitoring**
HB 764	Brian Close Brian Close Joseph Carroll	Revise public transit laws This bill empowers local governments to tailor transit services to the evolving needs of their communities by allowing county commissions to initiate the creation or expansion of urban transportation districts through a resolution, and permitting the removal of areas not served for five years without being subject to existing indebtedness.	legislature, May 13, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0764_X	**Subjects** H. Transportation **M. Passed** **Position** **Supporting**
HB 773	Bob Carter Bob Carter Casey Pallister	Revise laws related to metropolitan planning orgs and transportation planning HB 773, also known as Noah's Act, aimed to streamline transportation planning in Montana, particularly for metropolitan planning organizations (MPOs) reducing redundant reviews for projects aligned with approved long-range plans and granting local decision-making authority for certain safety improvements on urban streets.	House, May 20, 2025: (H) Died in Process	HB0773_1	**Subjects** H. Transportation **L. Dead** **Position** **Monitoring**
HB 933	Neil Duram Steve Gist Griffin Burns	Establish the Montana railroad crossing clarity act HB 933, the **Montana Railroad Crossing Clarity Act**, **simplifies the process for utilities** crossing railroad right-of-way by establishing clear application procedures, **limiting crossing fees**, and ensuring proper insurance coverage. For municipalities, this provides **greater transparency** and **predictability** in utility infrastructure projects, fostering **efficient coordination** between utilities and railroads while ensuring safety and fairness.	House, May 20, 2025: (H) Died in Process	HB0933_1	**Subjects** H. Transportation **L. Dead** **Position** **Supporting**
HJ 8	Becky Edwards Janet Ellis Casey Pallister	Study resolution on EV taxation and fees HJ 8 would have requested a legislative interim study on the impacts of property tax exemptions for certain organizations, particularly focusing on the implications for local government revenue and services. Had it passed, the study's findings could have led to legislative changes affecting how municipalities are funded and the services they can provide, depending on any adjustments made to property tax exemptions.	House, May 22, 2025: (H) Died in Process	HJ0008_2	**Subjects** H. Transportation **L. Dead** **Position** **Monitoring**
SB 67	Denley Loge Transportation Interim Committee Transportation Interim Committee	Provide for the use of autonomous vehicles SB 67 would prohibit municipalities from enacting rules that could discriminate against automated vehicles, potentially restricting their ability to address unique safety concerns or infrastructure limitations. The bill also would grant rulemaking authority primarily to state agencies like the Department of Transportation and the Department of Justice sidelining local governments and leaving cities and towns with little say in how these vehicles operate in their communities. The bill does not address the readiness of local infrastructure to support automated driving systems and the potential costs associated with enforcement and adaptation.	legislature, May 8, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	SB0067_X	**Subjects** H. Transportation **M. Passed** **Position** **Monitoring**
SB 228	Denley Loge Josh Kassmier Megan Moore	Revise laws related to public charging stations for electric vehicles SB 228 introduces a 3-cent per kilowatt hour tax on public EV charging, mandates separate metering and rate disclosure, and requires registration with the Department of Transportation, while also eliminating a proposed EV registration fee reduction.	legislature, Apr 18, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	SB0228_X	**Subjects** H. Transportation **M. Passed** **Position** **Monitoring**
SB 380	Shelley Vance Shelley Vance Joseph Carroll	Generally revise laws related to motor vehicle laws SB 380 revises laws related to motor vehicles, including driver's licenses, vehicle titles, and registration, and allows the Department and certain applicants to conduct more business electronically. It also amends and repeals several sections of the Montana Code Annotated (MCA).	legislature, May 8, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	SB0380_X	**Subjects** H. Transportation **M. Passed** **Position** **Monitoring**
SB 387	Greg Hertz Greg Hertz Casey Pallister	Generally revise electric bicycle laws SB 387 would have redefined electrically assisted bicycles, clarifying their status as distinct from motor vehicles.This change could have influenced transportation regulations and infrastructure planning within cities and towns, affecting the use of these bicycles on local roads and pathways.	Senate, May 23, 2025: (S) Died in Process	SB0387_1	**Subjects** H. Transportation **L. Dead** **Position** **Monitoring**
SB 423	Ellie Boldman Ellie Boldman Maxwell Parson	Generally revise the route of the Lewis and Clark Highway SB 423 would have revised the Lewis and Clark Highway route, specifically within Missoula, to minimize its impact on residential areas. This change could have altered traffic patterns and infrastructure planning within the city, affecting local transportation and development.	Senate, May 23, 2025: (S) Died in Process	SB0423_1	**Subjects** H. Transportation **L. Dead** **Position** **Monitoring**
SB 433	Theresa Manzella Kenneth Bogner Joseph Carroll	Revise right-of-way laws for roundabouts SB 433 revises laws related to the regulation of medical cannabis, including changes to licensing, fees, inspections, advertising, and the tracking system, and it also establishes a process for recalling cannabis products.	legislature, May 8, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	SB0433_X	**Subjects** H. Transportation **M. Passed** **Position** **Monitoring**
SB 545	Mike Cuffe Kenneth Bogner Rebecca Power	Establish the Danny L. Radish Highway in Lincoln County SB 545 designates a portion of Highway 37 in Lincoln County as the 'Danny L. Radish Highway,' requiring the Department of Transportation to install signage and update state highway maps. The bill also increases the original personalized license plate fee by $1, with the revenue directed to the state general fund. While the highway designation primarily affects Lincoln County, the license plate fee increase	legislature, May 16, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	SB0545_X	**Subjects** H. Transportation **M. Passed** **Position** **Monitoring**

		may indirectly affect municipal residents who purchase personalized plates, though the overall fiscal impact on cities and towns is minimal.			

Local Authority

Bill	Sponsors	Title	Last Action	Latest Version	Lists
HB 37	Greg Oblander Local Government Interim Committee Local Government Interim Committee	Revise property tax information required in preliminary budgets HB 37 amends Montana Code Annotated 7-6-4020, requiring local government preliminary budgets to include the prior and current year's property taxes levied on $100,000 of residential property value, while removing the need for tax increase breakdowns at higher property values. This bill impacts municipalities by altering budget presentation requirements, potentially increasing transparency for residents regarding property tax impacts.	legislature, Apr 7, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0037_X	**Subjects** J. Local Authority **M. Passed** **Position** **Monitoring**
HB 38	Greg Oblander Local Government Interim Committee Local Government Interim Committee	Revise laws relate to disability parking	legislature, Mar 27, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0038_X	**Subjects** J. Local Authority **M. Passed** **Position** **Supporting**
HB 100	Bill Mercer Department of Administration by State Administration and Veterans' Affairs Interim Committee Department of Administration	Generally revise public record laws HB 100 imposes new, unfunded mandates on public agencies, excluding local governments, which could lead to confusion and increased administrative burdens. While promoting transparency, the bill fails to address the unique challenges faced by municipalities in managing public record requests, potentially creating disparities in access and compliance.	legislature, May 13, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0100_X	**Subjects** J. Local Authority **M. Passed** **Position** **Opposing**
HB 122	Larry Brewster Larry Brewster Griffin Burns	Revise right-of-way laws HB 122 revises the laws governing elections, specifically addressing the process for voter registration, the handling of absentee ballots, and procedures related to election administration, including the duties of election officials and the conduct of elections.	legislature, May 5, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0122_X	**Subjects** J. Local Authority **M. Passed** **Position** **Monitoring**
HB 160	Ed Stafman Marilyn Marler Toni Henneman	Repeal uniform auxiliary container regulation laws HB 160 would have repealed the state's prohibition on local governments regulating auxiliary containers, such as plastic bags or styrofoam containers granting cities and counties the authority to create their own ordinances regarding the use, sale, and distribution of these items	House, May 20, 2025: (H) Died in Process	HB0160_1	**Subjects** J. Local Authority **L. Dead** **Position** **Supporting**
HB 178	Braxton Mitchell Braxton Mitchell Rachel Weiss	Limit government use of AI systems HB 178 limits the use of artificial intelligence (AI) systems by state and local governments, prohibiting certain uses and requiring disclosure of AI use in some instances. It also mandates that a human in a responsible position reviews AI recommendations or decisions.	legislature, May 8, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0178_X	**Subjects** J. Local Authority **M. Passed** **Position** **Monitoring**
HB 208	Greg Overstreet Greg Overstreet Toni Henneman	Providing authority for municipalities to control unauthorized occupancy of municipal property HB 208 **empowers municipalities** to **regulate unauthorized camping and property storage** on public property, enhancing local control over public spaces. For Montana municipalities, this provides **greater authority to manage public areas**, improve **public safety**, and address issues related to **unauthorized use** of municipal property.	legislature, May 6, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0208_X	**Subjects** J. Local Authority **M. Passed** **Position** **Supporting**
HB 298	Jedediah Hinkle Jedediah Hinkle Megan Moore	Revise local election laws on approval of marijuana businesses HB 298 would have limited the ability of smaller municipalities (those under 5,000 residents) to hold local elections regarding marijuana businesses, thus restricting local control. This type of population-based restriction undermines the principle of local self-governance and the ability of smaller communities to tailor regulations to their specific needs.	House, May 20, 2025: (H) Died in Process	HB0298_1	**Subjects** J. Local Authority **L. Dead** **Position** **Opposing**
HB 318	Larry Brewster Larry Brewster Maddie Krezowski	Require appeal process for certain local government health requirements House Bill 318 requires local governing bodies to provide an appeal process for certain health requirements imposed on sewage disposal systems after a construction permit has been issued. Specifically, if a local board of health enforces additional requirements beyond those specified in the permit, the affected party may appeal these new conditions to the local governing body.	legislature, May 5, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0318_X	**Subjects** J. Local Authority **M. Passed** **Position** **Monitoring**
HB 478	Nelly Nicol Nelly Nicol Rebecca Brown	Generally revise laws relating to volunteer church security teams HB 478 would have allowed organizations to establish volunteer security teams.	House, May 20, 2025: (H) Died in Process	HB0478_1	**Subjects** J. Local Authority **L. Dead** **Position** **Monitoring**

HB 482	Lukas Schubert Lukas Schubert Rebecca Power	Provide that local government elections be partisan HB 482would have mandated partisan elections for local governments, removing the nonpartisan nature of these elections. This change could have introduced divisive partisan politics into local decision-making, potentially undermining community-focused governance and increasing political polarization.	House, May 20, 2025: (H) Died in Process	HB0482_1	**Subjects** J. Local Authority **L. Dead** **Position** **Opposing**
HB 604	Braxton Mitchell Braxton Mitchell Maddie Krezowski	Prohibit guaranteed income programs This bill would have striped local governments of the authority to respond to local needs through innovative programs like guaranteed income, regardless of community support or funding sources.	House, May 20, 2025: (H) Died in Process	HB0604_1	**Subjects** J. Local Authority **L. Dead** **Position** **Opposing**
HB 638	Randyn Gregg Steve Fitzpatrick Andria Hardin	Revise human rights laws This bill would restricts local government agencies' ability to implement diversity, equity, and inclusion initiatives that they deem necessary for their communities. By prohibiting the requirement of diversity statements, the bill limits local control over hiring and other personnel practices, potentially hindering efforts to address local disparities and promote inclusive workplaces. It also removes a tool that localities might use to demonstrate commitment to equal opportunity.	legislature, May 5, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0638_X	**Subjects** J. Local Authority **M. Passed** **Position** **Opposing**
HB 642	Greg Overstreet Steve Fitzpatrick Jameson Walker	Revise civil liability laws HB 642 provides reforms to civil liability laws that help protect local governments from excessive or unfair litigation. By clarifying liability standards and limiting certain damages, HB 642 promotes fiscal stability for municipalities, ensures public funds are used for community services—not legal settlements—and encourages fair, efficient resolution of disputes.	legislature, May 5, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0642_X	**Subjects** J. Local Authority **M. Passed** **Position** **Supporting**
HB 650	Caleb Hinkle Marta Bertoglio Julie Johnson	Revise bonding laws to include broadband projects HB 650 prioritizes state bonding for broadband infrastructure without ensuring coordination with local governments, potentially bypassing municipal planning and priorities. While expanding broadband access is important, the bill lacks safeguards to prevent duplication of existing services or to guarantee that funds are directed to the most critical underserved areas. Additionally, shifting state bonding resources toward broadband could limit funding availability for other essential municipal infrastructure projects.	legislature, May 5, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0650_X	**Subjects** J. Local Authority **M. Passed** **Position** **Monitoring**
HB 658	Jedediah Hinkle Jedediah Hinkle Toni Henneman	Revise local board of health sanitation powers and rules HB 658 would limit local governments' ability to establish sanitation regulations that address unique local conditions. By preventing local boards of health from adopting rules stricter than state standards, the bill undermines the ability of cities and towns to respond to specific public health and environmental concerns, such as groundwater protection and wastewater management in high-risk areas. Additionally, restricting local oversight of onsite wastewater treatment systems could create long-term public health risks, as local officials would have fewer tools to address potential failures or emerging sanitation issues.	Senate, May 22, 2025: (S) Died in Standing Committee	HB0658_1	**Subjects** J. Local Authority **L. Dead** **Position** **Opposing**
HB 659	Jedediah Hinkle Jedediah Hinkle Matthew Weaver	Revising marijuana election requirements in certain municipalities HB 659 would have imposed stringent election requirements on marijuana businesses in "qualified municipalities" (those with their own police departments), potentially creating disparities in regulation. This could have led to uneven economic development and regulatory burdens across different municipalities, restricting local control.	House, May 20, 2025: (H) Died in Process	HB0659_2	**Subjects** J. Local Authority **L. Dead** **Position** **Opposing**
HB 667	Ed Buttrey Ed Buttrey Jameson Walker	Revise labor laws relating to employers and public service HB 667 would eliminate the ability of municipalities to annex contiguous land without the written consent of a majority of the landowners in the area proposed for annexation and significantly restricts the ability of cities and towns to grow and provide services in a planned and efficient manner, potentially hindering community development and infrastructure expansion.	legislature, May 19, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0667_X	**Subjects** J. Local Authority **M. Passed** **Position** **Opposing**
HB 683	Steve Gist Steve Fitzpatrick Jaret Coles	Revise local government conflict of interest laws for contracted projects HB 683 could unnecessarily restrict local governments' ability to contract with qualified professionals, potentially increasing costs and delaying projects. While transparency and avoiding conflicts of interest are important, the bill's broad prohibitions may limit the pool of available contractors, particularly in smaller communities with fewer engineering and construction firms. Additionally, existing competitive bidding laws already provide safeguards against improper contracting practices. By adding overly rigid restrictions, this legislation could make it harder for local governments to complete infrastructure projects efficiently and cost-effectively.	legislature, May 19, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0683_X	**Subjects** J. Local Authority **M. Passed** **Position** **Monitoring**
HB 698	Bill Mercer Bill Mercer Matthew Weaver	Generally revise laws related to local government and marijuana dispensaries HB 698 would have revised laws related to local government and marijuana dispensaries. It clarifies how the authority to opt out of recreational marijuana commercial activities should work, as created by House Bill No. 701 (2021). The bill also requires specific language on ballot forms regarding the prohibition of adult-use businesses	Senate, May 22, 2025: (S) Died in Standing Committee	HB0698_1	**Subjects** J. Local Authority **L. Dead** **Position** **Monitoring**

HB 742	Steve Gist Steve Gist Toni Henneman	Revise nuisance compliance laws HB 742 **updates local nuisance laws** by requiring a **minimum number of complaints** before county inspections for community decay and expanding the definition of **public nuisance**. This benefits Montana municipalities by **clarifying enforcement authority**, **strengthening local control over nuisance issues**, and **ensuring fair, community-driven complaint processes**.	legislature, May 21, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0742_X	**Subjects** J. Local Authority **Position** **Supporting**
HB 782	Steven Kelly Steven Kelly Toni Henneman	Revise local planning board laws HB 782 would have revised the membership requirements of county planning boards in Montana specifically stating that if a city or town becomes represented on a county planning board, the respective city councils must appoint additional planning board members to represent them.	House, May 20, 2025: (H) Died in Process	HB0782_1	**Subjects** J. Local Authority **L. Dead** **Position** **Monitoring**
HB 791	Anthony Nicastro Anthony Nicastro Jameson Walker	Generally revise nuisance laws HB 791significantly alters nuisance laws, potentially limiting municipalities' ability to address public nuisances effectively. The bill's restrictions on what can be considered a public nuisance and its provisions regarding agricultural operations could hinder local governments' efforts to protect public health and safety.	legislature, May 13, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0791_X	**Subjects** J. Local Authority **M. Passed** **Position** **Monitoring**
HB 809	Braxton Mitchell Braxton Mitchell Toni Henneman	Prohibit local governments from enacting red flag gun laws House Bill 809 prohibits Montana local governments from adopting or enforcing extreme risk protection orders (ERPOs), also known as red flag laws, and from accepting funding related to them. It establishes civil penalties for violations and adds language to existing law reinforcing that local governments cannot regulate firearm-related matters that affect the right to keep and bear arms.	legislature, May 13, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0809_X	**Subjects** J. Local Authority **M. Passed** **Position** **Monitoring**
HB 810	Mary Caferro Daniel Zolnikov Joseph Carroll	Revise tenant landlord laws HB 810 revises Montana's landlord-tenant laws, clarifying rental agreements and payment terms. It specifies acceptable rent payment methods and prohibits additional fees based on the payment type, except to recoup electronic bank fees for electronic payments. While the bill aims to reduce disputes by streamlining rental agreements, I don't have enough information to determine the specific impact on Montana municipalities.	legislature, Jun 12, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0810_X	**Subjects** J. Local Authority **M. Passed** **Position** **Monitoring**
HB 819	Braxton Mitchell Braxton Mitchell Rebecca Power	Revise laws relating to flag displays in and on state buildings and grounds HB 819 aims to address Montana's housing affordability crisis, however, the bill's provisions, particularly those related to zoning and land use, reduce local control over planning and development, potentially leading to unintended consequences in communities.	legislature, May 19, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0819_X	**Subjects** J. Local Authority **M. Passed** **Position** **Opposing**
HB 889	Jedediah Hinkle Jedediah Hinkle Toni Henneman	Revise local growth policy and county zoning laws HB 889 would have revised Montana's laws concerning local government land use regulations stipulating that growth policies for lands outside city limits cannot include certain sensitive lands requirements. The bill also would have revised county zoning requirements, focusing on material aspects of property rather than aesthetic ones, and aims to secure safety, promote public health, and facilitate public requirements. Additionally, the bill addressed minimum lot size restrictions, particularly in areas near municipalities and included an appropriation of $300 from the general fund to the department of commerce to notify local governments of these changes and which would have taken effect on July 1, 2025.	House, May 20, 2025: (H) Died in Process	HB0889_2	**Subjects** J. Local Authority **L. Dead** **Position** **Monitoring**
HJ 55	Amy Regier Daniel Zolnikov Toni Henneman	Study resolution on property management licensing and practice HJ 55 requests an interim study of property management licensing standards, education, and practices in Montana, addressing concerns about costs, limited professional requirements, and the lack of regulation for foreign entities managing rental properties. The study's findings are to be reported to the 70th Legislature	House, May 6, 2025: (H) Filed with Secretary of State	HJ0055_X	**Subjects** J. Local Authority **Position** **Monitoring**
SB 27	Kenneth Bogner Economic Affairs Interim Committee Economic Affairs Interim Committee	Generally revise marijuana licensing laws SB 27 revises laws related to the judiciary, specifically concerning the jurisdiction and procedures of water courts in the state. It amends multiple sections of the Montana Code Annotated (MCA) related to water rights adjudication.	legislature, May 8, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	SB0027_X	**Subjects** J. Local Authority **M. Passed** **Position** **Monitoring**
SB 33	Greg Hertz Department of Administration by State Administration and Veterans' Affairs Interim Committee Department of Administration	State buildings subject to state building code review SB 33 transfers building plan review, permitting, inspection, and code enforcement for state-owned public buildings to the Department of Labor and Industry, while ensuring local governments receive building plans and comment opportunities. This bill impacts municipalities by clarifying local jurisdiction over building code enforcement and defining the division of responsibilities between state and local entities, particularly concerning public buildings within city or town limits.	legislature, Apr 17, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	SB0033_X	**Subjects** J. Local Authority **M. Passed** **Position** **Monitoring**
SB 94	John Fuller John Fuller Andria Hardin	Generally revise public sector unions law SB 94 would have prohibited the use of public funds for labor organization activities, including employee compensation for such activities, significantly impacting labor relations within municipalities. This restriction would have limited the ability of cities and towns to effectively negotiate with labor unions and manage employee relations.	Senate, May 23, 2025: (S) Died in Process	SB0094_2	**Subjects** J. Local Authority **L. Dead** **Position** **Opposing**
SB 96	John Fuller John Fuller	Establish working animal protection act	House, Jun 9, 2025: (H) Died in	SB0096_1	**Subjects**

	Laura Sherley	SB 96 would prevent cities and towns from enacting ordinances that regulate the use of working animals in commerce or service. While the bill allows local governments to regulate animal care and public safety, it broadly prohibits them from banning or placing undue hardship on the use of working animals, limiting their ability to address community concerns. This could prevent cities from responding to local needs, such as managing urban environments, addressing animal welfare issues, or ensuring public safety in a way that best serves their residents.	Standing Committee		J. Local Authority L. Dead **Position** Opposing
SB 195	Jeremy Trebas Jeremy Trebas Jameson Walker	Generally revise laws related to alcohol and minors SB 195 would have revised Montana's alcohol laws, allowing 18-20 year olds to possess and consume beer or table wine with parental, guardian, or spousal consent on private property or at licensed premises. Importantly for municipalities, the bill would have required counties or local governments to opt-in through ordinance or resolution to allow this, giving them the power to regulate or prohibit such consumption within their jurisdictions.	Senate, May 23, 2025: (S) Died in Process	SB0195_1	**Subjects** J. Local Authority L. Dead **Position** **Monitoring**
SB 254	Greg Hertz Greg Hertz Julie Johnson	Prohibit direct or indirect expenditure of public money to hire lobbyist The bill would ban local governments from using public funds to hire, contract, or pay lobbyists or associations that engage in lobby activities, such as those representing them. This restriction would significantly impede the ability of cities and towns to effectively represent their communities' interests resulting in diminished advocacy, increased costs, and legal implications.	Senate, May 23, 2025: (S) Died in Process	SB0254_1	**Subjects** J. Local Authority L. Dead **Position** Opposing
SB 356	Barry Usher Barry Usher Jameson Walker	Revise insurance laws relating to automobile body repair SB 356 would have altered insurance industry regulations regarding automobile body repairs, potentially affecting local businesses. It would have prohibited insurers from coercing claimants into using specific repair shops and mandated the provision of a list of nearby repair options, while also preventing insurers from disregarding OEM repair instructions. This could have changed the dynamics between insurers, repair shops, and consumers within municipal areas.	House, May 23, 2025: (H) Died in Standing Committee	SB0356_1	**Subjects** J. Local Authority L. Dead **Position** **Monitoring**
SB 399	Kenneth Bogner Kenneth Bogner Rebecca Power	Revise times for holding primary elections SB 399 would have moved Montana's primary election from June to May, potentially altering election administration and voter turnout within municipalities. This change could have required cities and towns to adjust their election planning and coordination with county election officials.	Senate, May 23, 2025: (S) Died in Process	SB0399_1	**Subjects** J. Local Authority L. Dead **Position** **Monitoring**
SB 418	Ellie Boldman Ellie Boldman Matthew Weaver	Generally revise laws relating to home based businesses SB 418 would restrict local municipal zoning and business regulations, limiting a city/town's ability to address community-specific concerns. While supporting home-based businesses is important, this bill could weaken a municipality's ability to manage neighborhood impacts such as parking congestion, noise, or commercial traffic in residential areas. By prohibiting local governments from requiring permits or licenses, SB 418 reduces their ability to ensure that home-based businesses operate in a way that balances economic opportunity with the character and livability of residential neighborhoods.	House, Apr 9, 2025: (H) Tabled in Committee -- (H) Local Government	SB0418_1	**Subjects** J. Local Authority L. Dead **Position** Opposing
SB 420	Ellie Boldman Ellie Boldman Pad McCracken	Limit local government fees for children's use of parks This legislation would limit the fees that local governments can charge for children's use of certain park and recreation facilities. Specifically, it prohibits local governments from enacting any rules or policies that impose fees exceeding $25 per month or $10 for a 3-consecutive-day period for children's access to parks or sports fields, excluding swimming pools, aquatic centers, or ice recreation centers. By capping fees at arbitrary low levels, the bill disregards the actual costs of upkeep, staffing, and infrastructure, shifting the financial burden onto taxpayers or forcing cuts to services. This restriction could lead to reduced programming, deteriorating facilities, or higher costs in other areas to compensate for the lost revenue.	House, May 23, 2025: (H) Died in Standing Committee	SB0420_2	**Subjects** J. Local Authority L. Dead **Position** Opposing
SB 451	Daniel Emrich Daniel Emrich Laura Sankey Keip	Revise laws related to public libraries and library services SB 451 would have narrowly defined the services free public libraries can offer, limiting their ability to respond to diverse community needs. This restriction could have prevented libraries from providing essential services beyond traditional functions, such as community outreach programs, social services support, and other locally tailored initiatives that enhance community well-being.	Senate, May 23, 2025: (S) Died in Process	SB0451_1	**Subjects** J. Local Authority L. Dead **Position** Opposing
SB 470	Daniel Zolnikov Daniel Zolnikov Rebecca Power	Generally revise election law SB 470 would have revised the selection and notification processes for election judges, increasing the role of county central committees. These changes could have altered the administration of local elections and increased administrative burdens on municipalities.	Senate, May 23, 2025: (S) Died in Process	SB0470_1	**Subjects** J. Local Authority L. Dead **Position** **Monitoring**
SB 492	Greg Hertz Greg Hertz Andria Hardin	Generally revise business disclosure statement requirements for elected officials and department directors SB 492 primarily focuses on revising business disclosure statement requirements for elected officials and department directors in Montana. It aims to enhance transparency by requiring these individuals to disclose financial interests that could present conflicts of interest.	legislature, May 16, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	SB0492_X	**Subjects** J. Local Authority M. Passed **Position** **Monitoring**
SB 529	Josh Kassmier Steve Fitzpatrick Andria Hardin	Revise campaign finance laws to limit certain tax-exempt organization contributions SB 529 would have imposed new contribution limits and restrictions on 501(c)(4) organizations donating to political campaigns, potentially limiting municipalities' ability to engage with and receive support from these groups on	Senate, May 23, 2025: (S) Died in Process	SB0529_1	**Subjects** J. Local Authority L. Dead **Position**

		local issues. This restriction could have hindered collaborative efforts and reduced the financial resources available for local initiatives			**Opposing**
SB 547	Shane Morigeau Greg Hertz Andria Hardin	Generally revise eligibility for disabled parking permit laws SB 547 may strain existing parking resources, potentially leading to increased congestion and reduced accessibility for individuals with permanent disabilities. Additionally, the $10 permit fee, directed to the state general fund, does not benefit local governments that manage and maintain parking infrastructure.	Senate, May 23, 2025: (S) Died in Process	SB0547_1	**Subjects** J. Local Authority **L. Dead** **Position** **Opposing**
SJ 1	Tom McGillvray Joint Rules Committee Joint Rules Committee	Senate joint rules resolution Montana's Senate Joint Resolution 1 outlines the joint rules for the Montana Senate and House of Representatives, covering legislative procedures from bill sponsorship to enrollment. It also addresses the Governor's actions on bills and administrative matters like meeting times and media access.	Senate, May 5, 2025: (S) Filed with Secretary of State	SJ0001_X	**Subjects** J. Local Authority **Position** **Monitoring**
SJ 16	Denley Loge Denley Loge Joseph Carroll	Joint resolution on automated vehicles SB 16 urges the federal government to ensure the safety of automated vehicles, particularly in challenging conditions like snow, ice, and open ranges. It emphasizes the need for federal laws and rules to ensure the safe operation of automated vehicles in all weather and road conditions.	Senate, May 5, 2025: (S) Filed with Secretary of State	SJ0016_X	**Subjects** J. Local Authority **Position** **Monitoring**
SJ 48	Mike Yakawich Greg Hertz Milly Allen	Interim study of the public health and safety impacts of marijuana legalization SJ 48 urges the United States Congress to take several actions regarding the management of grizzly bears in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem and the Northern Continental Divide Ecosystem. These actions include supporting delisting, returning management authority to the states, and ensuring adequate funding for proactive conflict prevention and livestock loss reimbursement.	Senate, May 6, 2025: (S) Filed with Secretary of State	SJ0048_X	**Subjects** J. Local Authority **Position** **Monitoring**

Other

Bill	Sponsors	Title	Last Action	Latest Version	Lists
HB 58	Jerry Schillinger Department of Environmental Quality by Environmental Quality Council Department of Environmental Quality	Revise distributions mine remediation HB 58 revises abandoned metal mine remediation fund distribution, mandating $500,000 biennially for the CR Kendall site and extending Libby asbestos Superfund site funding, while also prioritizing remediation based on health and environmental impacts. This bill impacts municipalities by influencing environmental cleanup funding and priorities, potentially affecting local environmental health and safety.	legislature, Apr 18, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0058_X	**Subjects** K. Other **M. Passed** **Position** **Supporting**
HB 62	Julie Darling Public Employees' Retirement Board by State Administration and Veterans' Affairs Interim Committee Public Employees' Retirement Board	Generally revise laws related to the administration of MPERA HB 62 revises laws related to the public employee retirement systems, addressing aspects of retirement like non-legislative employment, the deadline to apply for disability retirement, and duty-related disability retirement benefits. The bill also covers assessing interest on payroll reporting errors, prorating service purchases, clarifying disability retirement benefits applications, and revising minimum distribution and inherited account requirements to comply with federal law.	legislature, May 13, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0062_X	**Subjects** K. Other **M. Passed** **Position** **Monitoring**
HB 68	Steve Gist Local Government Interim Committee Local Government Interim Committee	Authorize county commissioners to initiate mandamus proceedings HB 68 grants county commissioners the authority to initiate civil proceedings for a writ of mandamus against other local government entities, excluding cities and towns, to compel specific actions, allowing for the recovery of attorney fees and imposing fines or recall for non-compliance. This bill impacts municipalities by clarifying the legal relationship between counties and other local entities, and by defining the potential legal actions available to counties, though cities and towns are excluded from these actions.	legislature, Apr 7, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0068_X	**Subjects** K. Other **M. Passed** **Position** **Monitoring**
HB 90	Russ Miner Department of Revenue by Revenue Interim Committee Department of Revenue	Provide two-year reappraisal cycle for all real property HB 90 mandates that Montana's noncentrally assessed real property (classes three, four, and ten) be reappraised every two years, instead of annually. It also clarifies the revaluation process for centrally assessed property and outlines the Department of Revenue's responsibilities in administering the reappraisal program, with the changes being effective for property tax years after December 31, 2024	legislature, Apr 3, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0090_X	**Subjects** K. Other **M. Passed** **Position** **Monitoring**
HB 121	Kerri Seekins-Crowe Kerri Seekins-Crowe Alexis Sandru	Provide privacy in certain restrooms, changing rooms, and sleeping quarters This bill requires that local governments to take "reasonable steps" if they encounter someone of the opposite sex in designated public facilities. This bill also allows any aggrieved individual to recover attorney fees or costs from the local government if it did not provide "reasonable steps" for a two-year period after the encounter. The League opposes this bill due to the ambiguity of the language.	legislature, Mar 27, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0121_X	**Subjects** K. Other **M. Passed** **Position** **Opposing**
HB 144	Eric Tilleman Eric Tilleman Maxwell Parson	Revise building code council membership laws HB 144 expands the Montana Building Codes Council from 12 to 13 members, adding a representative from the Montana State Fire Chiefs' Association. This amendment aims to bolster the council's expertise in fire safety and improve the implementation and interpretation of building codes.	legislature, Apr 7, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0144_X	**Subjects** K. Other **M. Passed** **Position** **Supporting**
HB 159	Alanah Griffith Alanah Griffith Toni Henneman	Revise rural improvement district laws to include maintenance of existing public improvements	legislature, Apr 7, 2025: Chapter	HB0159_X	**Subjects** K. Other **M. Passed**

		HB 159 revises rural improvement district laws, allowing for districts to maintain existing public improvements and streamlining the creation process by removing petition requirements if all property owners waive protest rights. This bill impacts municipalities by potentially affecting intergovernmental agreements and service delivery in areas where city or town boundaries interact with rural improvement districts, especially concerning road maintenance and public improvement funding.	Number Assigned		**Position** **Monitoring**
HB 207	Jodee Etchart Jodee Etchart Rebecca Power	Revise candidate filing and write-in candidate laws HB 207 revises laws related to special purpose districts in Montana, focusing on water and sewer districts. It amends various sections of the Montana Code Annotated, particularly Title 7, chapter 13, concerning the establishment, operation, and governance of these districts. The revisions aim to clarify and update the legal framework for special purpose districts, potentially affecting how these districts are managed and interact with Montana municipalities.	legislature, May 16, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0207_X	**Subjects** K. Other **M. Passed** **Position** **Monitoring**
HB 221	Lukas Schubert Lukas Schubert Rebecca Power	Revise election laws to require certain local elections to take place in even-numbered years This bill proposes to move municipal elections to even-numbered years. This is problematic for several reasons. While the bill aims to align municipal elections with general elections in even-numbered years, it explicitly states that municipalities will continue to bear the costs of their elections. This could lead to higher expenses if local issues require special elections outside the new cycle. Additionally, municipal elections currently held in odd-numbered years allow voters to focus on local issues without the distraction of state and federal races. Moving these elections to even-numbered years means city and town candidates and issues will compete for attention with high-profile state and national contests, reducing voter engagement in municipal matters.	Senate, May 22, 2025: (S) Died in Standing Committee	HB0221_2	**Subjects** K. Other **L. Dead** **Position** **Opposing**
HB 226	Courtenay Sprunger Courtenay Sprunger Jameson Walker	Provide for a legal employment and government accountability law HB 226, the "Legal Employment and Government Accountability Law," mandates employer verification of employee work eligibility in the U.S., empowers the Department of Labor and Industry for enforcement, and establishes penalties for non-compliance, including a dedicated state revenue account.	legislature, May 6, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0226_X	**Subjects** K. Other **M. Passed** **Position** **Monitoring**
HB 233	Alanah Griffith Alanah Griffith Rachel Weiss	Provide for transfer of title of open spaces in final plat to HOA HB 233 establishes a framework for transferring titles of open spaces and parks within subdivisions to homeowners' associations (HOAs). It allows HOAs to petition local governing bodies for these transfers, given specific conditions related to HOA organization, maintenance responsibilities, and subdivider intent. The bill also amends Montana Code Annotated sections to clarify HOA definitions and governing body roles, including retroactive applicability to plats recorded after October 1, 1973. This bill could streamline the management of common areas within municipalities by transferring responsibility to HOAs. It may impact municipal planning and zoning departments by requiring them to review and approve these transfers, potentially shifting maintenance and liability responsibilities from the municipality to HOA	legislature, Apr 18, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0233_X	**Subjects** K. Other **M. Passed** **Position** **Monitoring**
HB 245	Ed Buttrey Ed Buttrey Milly Allen	Revise the Montana HELP Act workforce development provisions and termination date This bill to strikes the termination date from the HELP Act and adjust the work requirements that lawmakers established in 2019. The bill also removes the requirement contracts services for training and educational services.	legislature, Mar 27, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0245_X	**Subjects** K. Other **M. Passed** **Position** **Supporting**
HB 292	Tom Millett Tom Millett Joseph Carroll	Establish the uniform public expression protection act House Bill 292, known as the Uniform Public Expression Protection Act, establishes legal protections for individuals against civil actions that infringe upon their rights to free speech, assembly, or petition on matters of public concern. The bill allows for expedited dismissal of such claims and provides for the award of attorney fees to prevailing parties. However, it excludes claims involving governmental entities acting in official capacities or those related to the sale or lease of goods and services.	legislature, May 5, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0292_X	**Subjects** K. Other **M. Passed** **Position** **Monitoring**
HB 393	Brad Barker Brad Barker Toni Henneman	Require towns to record meetings in audio format HB 393, signed by Governor Gianforte on May 1, 2025, revises Section 2-3-214 of the Montana Code Annotated, stipulating that third-class towns are obligated to record their public meetings in audio format and to provide online access to these recordings within 14 business days.	legislature, May 5, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0393_X	**Subjects** K. Other **M. Passed** **Position** **Monitoring**
HB 394	Larry Brewster Larry Brewster Toni Henneman	Revise local government public notice and resolution requirements HB 394 **updates local government laws** by **enhancing public notice and hearing requirements**, ensuring **greater transparency** and **public participation** in municipal decisions. For municipalities, this bill **streamlines regulatory processes**, including **zoning ordinances and subdivision reviews**, while maintaining community involvement and ensuring compliance with safety and environmental standards.	legislature, May 5, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0394_X	**Subjects** K. Other **M. Passed** **Position** **Monitoring**
HB 400	Braxton Mitchell Braxton Mitchell Rachel Weiss	Enact the "Free to Speak Act" This bill could create significant administrative burdens and legal liabilities for local governments operating public schools and institutions. The bill's broad language and private cause of action could lead to costly lawsuits and disrupt established workplace and educational policies regarding respectful and inclusive environments. Additionally, it potentially undermines local control over personnel and student conduct matters.	legislature, May 5, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0400_X	**Subjects** K. Other **M. Passed** **Position** **Opposing**
HB 455	Julie Darling Julie Darling	Revise election laws related to COPP deadlines for municipal candidates	legislature, May 5, 2025: Chapter	HB0455_X	**Subjects** K. Other

	Rebecca Power	House Bill 455 updates the deadline for the Commissioner of Political Practices to certify candidates for municipal elections. The bill specifies that for municipal primary elections, the certification must occur no later than five days after the candidate filing deadline. For municipal general elections, certification is required by September 24, or the preceding Friday if September 24 falls on a weekend. These changes apply to municipal elections held on or after April 20, 2025	Number Assigned		**M. Passed** **Position** **Monitoring**
HB 483	Courtenay Sprunger Courtenay Sprunger Pad McCracken	Revise laws to reduce property taxes while preserving the current 95 school equalization mills HB 483 revises school funding laws related to property taxes. It aims to mitigate the impacts of reappraisal on school funding and property taxes, potentially impacting Montana municipalities by adjusting how taxable valuations are allocated to local government units.	legislature, May 16, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0483_X	**Subjects** K. Other **M. Passed** **Position** **Monitoring**
HB 524	Caleb Hinkle Forrest Mandeville Toni Henneman	Remove boarding and rooming houses from lodging requirements HB 524 would have revised definitions and amends sections of the Montana Code Annotated (MCA) related to public health and safety requirements for establishments like hotels, motels, and tourist homes.	House, May 20, 2025: (H) Died in Process	HB0524_1	**Subjects** K. Other **L. Dead** **Position** **Monitoring**
HB 540	Steven Kelly Steven Kelly Sara Hess	Alllow DOC to contract with private corporations to establish and maintain certain facilities and programs This legislation could have presented several challenges for local governments in Montana, particularly in terms of financial burden, public safety, and governance. While HB 540 aims to expand correctional services and involve communities in decision-making, it would inadvertently shift financial and administrative burdens onto local governments.	House, May 20, 2025: (H) Died in Process	HB0540_1	**Subjects** K. Other **L. Dead** **Position** **Opposing**
HB 547	Scott DeMarois Derek Harvey Toni Henneman	Revise firefighting laws for consolidated city-county governments HB 547 revises fire protection laws in Montana's consolidated city-county governments by mandating a fire service director or fire chief and protecting the retirement benefits of volunteer firefighters. It also repeals sections that previously exempted volunteer fire services from consolidation effects, aiming to streamline their integration into consolidated governments.	House, May 13, 2025: (H) Vetoed by Governor	HB0547_X	**Subjects** K. Other **L. Dead** **Position** **Supporting**
HB 592	Courtenay Sprunger Lyn Bennett Matthew Weaver	Generally revise agency rulemaking under MAPA This bill revises the laws regarding the licensure of outfitters and guides in Montana. It updates definitions, clarifies requirements for licensure including experience and safety standards, and modifies the process for disciplinary actions against licensees.	legislature, May 19, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0592_X	**Subjects** K. Other **M. Passed** **Position** **Monitoring**
HB 613	Bill Mercer Bill Mercer Julie Johnson	Revise laws related to state aid to public libraries This bill would have placed an additional financial burden on local governments by requiring dollar-for-dollar matching funds for state library aid, without offering flexibility in funding sources, making it harder for smaller or resource-constrained municipalities to access state support for their libraries, potentially widening the gap in library services across communities.	House, May 20, 2025: (H) Died in Process	HB0613_1	**Subjects** K. Other **L. Dead** **Position** **Opposing**
HB 618	George Nikolakakos George Nikolakakos Andria Hardin	Provide for a Montana individual freedom act This bill would have broadly restricted local governments from engaging in diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts. It also would have given the Attorney General sweeping authority to investigate and regulate municipal activities based on vague criteria.	House, May 20, 2025: (H) Died in Process	HB0618_1	**Subjects** K. Other **L. Dead** **Position** **Opposing**
HB 651	Amy Regier Amy Regier Toni Henneman	Allow for temporary door locks during emergency situations HB 651 allows the use of temporary door locking devices during shelter-in-place or emergency lockdown situations in public buildings. These devices must be approved by local fire or law enforcement authorities, comply with fire safety standards, and be removable without a key from the egress side. The bill provides a limited exception to existing fire code regulations to enhance safety during critical incidents	legislature, May 5, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0651_X	**Subjects** K. Other **M. Passed** **Position** **Monitoring**
HB 700	Bill Mercer Bill Mercer Rebecca Power	Changing the amortization period for statewide DB retirement systems to 25 years HB 700 would have revised laws related to the regulation of marijuana. It tried to clarify how the authority to opt out of recreational marijuana commercial activities should work, as created by House Bill No. 701 (2021). The bill also required specific language on ballot forms regarding the prohibition of adult-use businesses.	House, May 20, 2025: (H) Died in Process	HB0700_1	**Subjects** K. Other **L. Dead** **Position** **Monitoring**
HB 804	Steve Fitzpatrick Steve Fitzpatrick Andria Hardin	Revise laws for lobbyist payment threshold HB 804 revises Montana's lobbying laws, increasing the payment threshold for lobbyists from $2,150 to $3,000. This change may affect Montana municipalities by potentially reducing the regulatory burden on smaller lobbying efforts, which could encourage more diverse representation in the legislative process. However, some critics are concerned that raising the threshold could diminish oversight and transparency in lobbying activities, potentially allowing larger interests to exert undue influence without adequate public scrutiny	legislature, May 13, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	HB0804_X	**Subjects** K. Other **M. Passed** **Position** **Monitoring**
HB 938	Nelly Nicol Nelly Nicol Andria Hardin	Generally revise lobbying laws relating to state and local government agencies and non-governmental organizations HB 938 imposes burdensome new disclosure requirements on lobbyists representing local government agencies, adding administrative complexity and costs. The requirement to disclose federal funding sources and ensure compensation doesn't come from those sources creates unnecessary hurdles for municipalities engaging in essential advocacy.	House, May 20, 2025: (H) Died in Process	HB0938_1	**Subjects** K. Other **L. Dead** **Position** **Opposing**
HR 3	Donavon Hawk Bob Carter Casey Pallister	Resolution to protect online personally identifiable information This House Resolution from the Montana House of Representatives urges the Montana Congressional Delegation to advocate to the President of the United	House, May 1, 2025: (H) Filed	HR0003_X	**Subjects** K. Other

		States for the protection of Montanans' personally identifiable information from the Department of Government Efficiency (DOGE). The resolution expresses concern over the DOGE's access to sensitive information and the potential risks to citizens' privacy and security.	with Secretary of State		**Position** **Monitoring**
SB 11	Forrest Mandeville State Administration and Veterans' Affairs Interim Committee State Administration and Veterans' Affairs Interim Committee	Revise local government ballot issue laws SB 11 revises local government ballot issue procedures, introducing new petition requirements, legal reviews, and timelines, and also amends justice's court establishment and local-option tax regulations. This bill impacts municipalities by standardizing ballot issue processes, potentially affecting local election administration, and by altering the framework for local-option taxes and justice's court creation.	Senate, Apr 17, 2025: (S) Signed by Governor	SB0011_X	**Subjects** K. Other **M. Passed** **Position** **Monitoring**
SB 42	Daniel Emrich Senate Select Committee on Judicial Oversight and Reform Senate Select Committee on Judicial Oversight and Reform	Provide for the partisan election of judges and justices SB 42 would have revised judicial election laws in Montana. It would have provided for the partisan nomination and election of Supreme Court Justices, District Court Judges, Justices of the Peace, and Municipal Court Judges. It would have required independent candidates to be nominated in a separate primary election, similar to candidates affiliated with a political party, and would have revised signature requirements for independent judicial candidates. The bill would also have allowed judicial candidates to accept endorsements from political parties and allowed political parties to contribute to judicial candidates.	Senate, May 23, 2025: (S) Died in Process	SB0042_3	**Subjects** K. Other **L. Dead** **Position** **Monitoring**
SB 123	Forrest Mandeville Forrest Mandeville Jason Mohr	Allowing emergency permitting authority during an emergency This bill would have streamlined the complex permitting process during emergencies, allowing critical infrastructure repairs and response efforts—often led by municipalities—to proceed more efficiently.	Senate, May 23, 2025: (S) Died in Process	SB0123_1	**Subjects** K. Other **L. Dead** **Position** **Supporting**
SB 130	Jeremy Trebas Jeremy Trebas Andria Hardin	Revise elected official recall laws This bill would have eliminated the requirement for a statement of reasons or grounds for recalling a public officer holding an elective office. Under the new provisions, a public officer can be recalled without needing to provide justification, and if a statement is voluntarily included in a recall petition, its sufficiency will be determined by the qualified electors rather than the judiciary. The bill also revises the form of the recall petition to reflect these changes, allowing for a statement of reasons to be included but not mandating it.	Senate, May 23, 2025: (S) Died in Process	SB0130_1	**Subjects** K. Other **L. Dead** **Position** **Opposing**
SB 260	Greg Hertz Cora Neumann Megan Moore	Provide for alteration of service district boundaries SB 260 alters service district boundaries, covering situations like inaccessible public services or improving public safety. It outlines procedures for petition, public hearing, and elections for altering service hospital district boundaries, and addresses tax collection sharing when hospital district boundaries change. It also covers reconciliation payments between school districts with isolated pupils and the division of taxable value for territory transferred between school districts over three years.	legislature, May 16, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	SB0260_X	**Subjects** K. Other **M. Passed** **Position** **Monitoring**
SB 277	Matt Regier Kenneth Bogner Andria Hardin	Revise laws for payroll deduction of union dues and political contributions by public employers SB 277 would have prohibited public employers from deducting labor organization dues or political contributions from employee paychecks, imposing significant administrative burdens on municipalities. This restriction would have disrupted established labor relations and added unnecessary complexity to payroll processes.	Senate, May 23, 2025: (S) Died in Process	SB0277_1	**Subjects** K. Other **L. Dead** **Position** **Opposing**
SB 280	Mike Yakawich Mike Yakawich Sara Hess	Revise domestic violence intervention grant requirements SB 280 revises domestic violence intervention program grant requirements, allowing grants for monitoring court-ordered compliance for offenders charged or convicted of domestic violence offenses. This bill impacts municipalities by potentially increasing funding for local domestic violence intervention programs and affecting the monitoring of offenders within their jurisdictions.	legislature, Apr 17, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	SB0280_X	**Subjects** K. Other **M. Passed** **Position** **Monitoring**
SB 286	Daniel Emrich Daniel Emrich Joseph Carroll	Clarify value of caselaw interpreting a statute after subsequent legislative action SB 286 clarifies that the precedential value of court decisions interpreting a statute yields to subsequent legislative action on the interpreted statutory provisions. This bill is intended to be codified as an integral part of Title 1, chapter 1, part 1 of Montana law.	legislature, May 8, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	SB0286_X	**Subjects** K. Other **M. Passed** **Position** **Monitoring**
SB 297	Daniel Zolnikov Daniel Zolnikov Julianne Burkhardt	Generally revise privacy laws Senate Bill 297 updates Montana's privacy laws to notify consumers when their personal information is collected, provide an opt-out option, and issue privacy notices. It also mandates the Attorney General to post rights and responsibilities information online and specifies duties for data controllers. Additionally, SB 297 repeals certain provisions from the 2023 Montana Consumer Data Privacy Act.	legislature, May 13, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	SB0297_X	**Subjects** K. Other **M. Passed** **Position** **Monitoring**
SB 325	Derek Harvey Derek Harvey Jameson Walker	Creating family and medical leave act SB 325 would impose a significant financial burden on municipalities by requiring them to contribute to a new family and medical leave insurance fund. This mandate adds substantial, unfunded costs to local government budgets, potentially straining their ability to provide essential services and manage existing financial obligations	Senate, May 23, 2025: (S) Died in Process	SB0325_1	**Subjects** K. Other **L. Dead** **Position** **Opposing**
SB 334	Matt Regier Jane Gillette Milly Allen	Providing medicaid expansion to able-bodied adults who comply with community engagement requirements SB 334 would have revised Medicaid expansion requirements, imposing community engagement criteria and lifetime benefit limits for able-bodied adults. This change could have affected healthcare access for low-income individuals within cities and towns, potentially increasing the burden on local healthcare systems and social services.	Senate, May 23, 2025: (S) Died in Process	SB0334_1	**Subjects** K. Other **L. Dead** **Position** **Monitoring**
SB 346	Greg Hertz Steve Fitzpatrick Jameson Walker	Revise workers' compensation laws. SB 346 would have revised workers' compensation laws, requiring claimants to demonstrate a greater than 50% likelihood of prevailing before benefits are	Senate, May 23, 2025: (S) Died in Process	SB0346_1	**Subjects** K. Other

		ordered. This change could have affected the accessibility of workers' compensation benefits for municipal employees and local businesses, potentially increasing the burden on local governments.			**L. Dead** **Position** **Monitoring**
SB 360	Shelley Vance Shelley Vance Rebecca Power	Revise election laws related to definitions SB 360 revises laws related to the regulation of public utilities, specifically concerning rate-making procedures, the consideration of resource adequacy, and the establishment of a process for integrated resource planning.	legislature, May 8, 2025: Chapter Number Assigned	SB0360_X	**Subjects** K. Other **M. Passed** **Position** **Monitoring**
SB 376	Mark Noland Mark Noland Jameson Walker	Establish a right to work act SB 376, the "Worker Freedom Act," would have altered labor relations by preventing mandatory labor organization membership and requiring written authorization for dues deductions.This could have impacted labor organization activities and influence within cities and towns, affecting municipal employees and local businesses.	Senate, May 23, 2025: (S) Died in Process	SB0376_1	**Subjects** K. Other **L. Dead** **Position** **Monitoring**
SB 386	Greg Hertz Greg Hertz Laura Sherley	Provide for the Montana Local Meat Act SB 386, the Montana Local Meat Act, would have exempted certain local meat processors from state food regulations, potentially affecting local food markets and consumer safety. This exemption could have changed the landscape of local meat sales and processing within cities and towns, influencing local economies and food safety practices.	Senate, May 23, 2025: (S) Died in Process	SB0386_1	**Subjects** K. Other **L. Dead** **Position** **Monitoring**
SB 410	Daniel Zolnikov Daniel Zolnikov Casey Pallister	Provide for Montana genomic security act SB 410, also known as the Montana Genomic Security Act, aims to protect American genetic information by restricting the use of genetic sequencing equipment and software from foreign adversaries in Montana's medical and research facilities. It also mandates that genetic sequencing data of Montanans be stored within the United States and requires written consent for remote access to this data.	Senate, Jun 19, 2025: (S) Veto Override Vote Mail Poll in Progress	SB0410_X	**Subjects** K. Other **L. Dead** **Position** **Monitoring**
SJ 47	Forrest Mandeville Forrest Mandeville Toni Henneman	Study resolution on the creation or alteration of local government entities SJ 47 requests an interim study of the processes to create new incorporated municipalities and counties in Montana. The Legislative Council is requested to designate a committee to review existing statutory processes for the creation, alteration, and abandonment of local governments, with a report due to the 70th Legislature.	House, May 23, 2025: (H) Died in Standing Committee	SJ0047_1	**Subjects** K. Other **L. Dead** **Position** **Supporting**