



MONTANA SECRETARY OF STATE

LINDA McCULLOCH

**Interim SAVA Committee
SOS Linda McCulloch
Wednesday, August 19th
10:15 a.m. Room 137**

Major activities since last interim

- In addition with the administration of fair, secure and accurate 2014 elections:
Provide training and guidance to county election officials to implement 2015 legislation
- Assist counties in setting up satellite election offices on Indian reservations.
- Establish a system to allow qualified citizens to pre-register to vote online.
- Built a toolkit for RIM.
- Went to a paperless process for all incoming documents/work orders.
- Redacted personal information (e.g., SSN) from thousands of lien notices available to the public.
- Successfully scanned over three million business documents.
- Worked with the Legal staff to update business forms to ensure uniformity, adherence to statutory requirements, and ease of use by the business community.
- Updated website to include a “business tool kit” to assist the business community with transacting business in the state and registering their business with the Secretary of State’s office.
- Successfully rolled out the UCC SIMS application in July 2013 which allows for the timely filing of lien notices while providing innovative technology that streamlines the lien services offered by the Secretary of State’s office
- Edited and published (both in print and online) 28 issues of the Montana Administrative Register (3,085 pages).
- Edited and published (both in print and online) 5 quarterly Administrative Rules of Montana updates (4,220 pages).
- Presented 14 live notary training seminars to approximately 350 current and prospective notaries in six (6) cities around the state.
- Hosted the second Montana Notary Conference, providing 18 different workshops featuring 12 notary experts from around the country for over 200 attendees.
- Responded to State Human Resources’ Classification Audit and resulted in passing each audit item with 100% accurate rate.
- Fiscal compliance audit, no recommendations.

Key legislation from 2015 Session

HB	13	Changes to base pay and increase in state share to employee health benefits coverage.
HB	69	Election administrator training
HB	84	SAVA bill consolidating and standardizing dates and deadlines for elections
HB	123	Public Records law (re-write)
HB	198	Candidate titles on ballots
HB	209	Use of designated agent for voters with disabilities
HB	258	Establishes Benefit Corporations as an entity type in Montana.
HB	342	Use of email for absentee address confirmation
HB	400	Electronic ballot for disabled voters
HB	454	Revise how Parties select precinct representatives
HB	529	Prohibiting candidate from serving as a poll watcher
SB	35	Eliminates the requirement that a foreign entity provide a certificate of existence from its state of jurisdiction by instead requiring a statement that the foreign entity has complied with the organizational laws in the jurisdiction in which it is organized.
SB	306	Updating and revising notarial laws
SB	307	Clarifies on the record when a business is tribally owned

Current activities during the interim

- Training county election officials on new legislation.
- Get rid of more paper, rely more on electronic records, and guide agencies to do the same
- Continued efforts with the BE SIMS application to meet our early 2016 rollout including ensuring integrity of system, adherence to policies and statutory requirements, ease of use by external and internal users, and notifications to the public in preparation for “go live”.
- Provide on-line training for rule formatters and submitters.
- Host third Montana Notary Conference.