



Montana Legislature

Legislative Finance Committee and Legislative Council

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January 4, 2010

Dear Fellow Legislator:

March of 2010 marks the mid-point between the last legislative session and the next. Much has happened since session adjourned and still more changes may occur after March that the legislature will need to consider. Given the recent months of falling state revenues, it appears to be an appropriate time to reflect back and project forward to the 2011 session.

The Legislative Finance Committee and Legislative Council invite you to participate in a Legislative Training Day on March 3, 2010 at the Capitol. The program will include:

1. General budget training
2. A budget update for the current biennium and calculation of the potential for Governor's reductions
3. Updates on the current revenue forecasts
4. A budget forecast for the next biennium
5. An update from a state and national perspective on the implementation of the federal stimulus package and the state HB 645
6. An update on the pension systems unfunded liabilities and potential implications to state and local governments
7. An update on education, health and human Services, and corrections budgets for the current and following biennia
8. Opportunities for legislators to network with other legislators

Plenary sessions for the stimulus package and the overall budget picture will be complemented with break out sessions on individual topics. The individual topic sessions will be offered for various levels of budget and revenue experience.

The program will be capped by a dinner for all attending legislators with further opportunities for learning and networking. A draft agenda is attached.

This opportunity for training is available to all legislators. The Legislative Services and Legislative Fiscal Divisions have collaborated to provide the resources necessary for this training opportunity. Lunch and dinner will be provided on March 3. Travel expenses for legislators not already in town for another meeting will be provided for one night of lodging, mileage, and a breakfast.

Please RSVP for this event by calling or e-mailing Diane McDuffie at 444-2986 dinmcduffie@mt.gov by February 24, 2010. Also if you have further questions about the event, please contact Amy Carlson at 444-2988 or Susan Fox at 444-3066.

Sincerely,

Handwritten signature of Llew Jones in black ink.

Representative Llew Jones
Chairman
Legislative Finance Committee

Handwritten signature of Dennis Himmelberger in black ink.

Representative Dennis Himmelberger
Chairman
Legislative Council

Attachment