

MT Legislative Update (February 24, 2019)

The past week in review:

HB329 (Provide funding for local emergency services) Was tabled on Monday, February 19th, and is probably dead. The bill would have provided \$250,000 annually to each county for emergency services. Funding would have come from the State's "bed tax". The Montana Fire Alliance was watching the bill.

SB20 (Allow certain municipalities to annex into a rural fire district) Passed the House Local Government Committee and went on to pass 2nd reading 95-5. The bill is scheduled for 3rd reading on Monday, February 25th. The bill would allow second class cities to annex into a rural fire district for fire protection services. It was developed by the 2018 Local Government Interim Committee with input from the Montana fire service. It is supported by the Montana Fire Alliance.

Hearings and issues this upcoming week:

HB464 (Create a hazardous materials spill response task force) Has a hearing in the House Natural Resources Committee on Wednesday, February 27th, at 3:00 PM in room 172. The bill would create a 24 member hazardous materials response and preparedness task force administratively attached to the department of transportation. The Montana Fire Alliance is watching the bill.

To follow the Montana Fire Alliance's watch list go to www.mtfirealliance.org

Respectfully Submitted
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Montana Fire Alliance - Legislative Liaison