



PRESS RELEASE
May 27, 2026

CONTACT:
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Montana Advisory Committee to the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights Invites the Public to Participate in a Series of Virtual Panels Examining Potential Civil Rights Violations Resulting from Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Policies at Montana Public Universities

The Montana Advisory Committee (Committee) will hold a series of public virtual briefings from July until the Fall. The purpose of these events is to hear testimony examining civil rights concerns with the enactment of DEI policies at Montana public universities' current policies and an analysis of discrimination, if any, based on race, religion, color, age, disability, or other federally protected category.

Briefing I

Date and Time: Thursday, June 11, 2026 at 3:00 - 5:00 pm MT

Zoom Details: https://www.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_OP0RG_FjTE2pcY9X56UjCw

To join by phone: 1-833-435-1820; **Meeting ID:** 165 359 7412

Briefing II

Date and Time: Thursday, July 9, 2026 at 3:00 - 5:00 pm MT

Zoom Details: https://www.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_UzNWwNskSd-Ty5aKUQ9n6w

To join by phone: 1-833-435-1820; **Meeting ID:** 165 783 2469

Briefing III

Date and Time: Thursday, July 16, 2026 at 3:00 – 5:00 pm MT

Zoom Details: https://www.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_QZXPSXggTiSh54z27RJeIg

To join by phone: 1-833-435-1820; **Meeting ID:** 165 515 4508

Future briefings dates TBD

The Committee invites members of the public to share a public comment at any of the three scheduled briefings. Additionally, members of the public are welcome to submit written comments to afortes@usccr.gov or through an online form <https://wkf.ms/4uVXi0b>. The Committee will accept written comments until November 30, 2026.

Meeting materials can be found here: <https://usccr.app.box.com/s/mw9mbsf7b9dy00grnfelpzs0tykg6isr> and the panelists for upcoming meetings will be updated on the Committee's project page: <https://lp.constantcontactpages.com/cu/ATIMcqV/MTSACProjectPage>.

The U.S. Commission on Civil Rights, established by the Civil Rights Act of 1957, is the only independent bipartisan agency charged with advising the president and Congress on civil rights and reporting annually on federal civil rights enforcement. Our 56 Advisory Committees offer a broad perspective on civil rights concerns at the state and local levels. For information about the Commission, please visit us at www.usccr.gov and follow us on Facebook and LinkedIn.

Committee Chair Kendall Cotton said, “The testimony we receive in these briefings will inform our understanding of potential civil rights violations resulting from diversity, equity, and inclusion policies at Montana public universities. We invite interested members of the public to attend and share their perspectives during the public comment session.”

Individuals requiring special accommodation should contact atrevino@uscrr.gov at least 10 days prior to the meeting.

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