



PRESS RELEASE
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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) continues its series of public virtual briefings into 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 (Cancelled): Wednesday, 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

Briefing II: Thursday, September 10, 2026 at 3:00 – 5:00 pm MT
Zoom Details: https://www.zoomgov.com/webinar/register/WN_al1uOdtmQfWayWGrd3rJ7g
To join by phone: 1-833-435-1820; **Meeting ID:** 165 131 9571

Future briefings dates TBD

The Committee invites members of the public to share a public comment at any of the 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://tinyurl.com/MTSACPUBLICRECORDS> and the panelists for upcoming meetings will be updated on the Committee's project page: <https://tinyurl.com/MTSACDEIPROJECT>.

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@usccr.gov at least 10 days prior to the meeting.

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.