



GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF
BUDGET AND PROGRAM PLANNING

Fiscal Note 2027 Biennium

Bill#/Title: SB0330.03 (002): Create a Montana blockchain and digital innovation task force

Primary Sponsor: Gayle Lammers Status: As Amended in House Committee

☐ Included in the Executive Budget ☒ Needs to be included in HB 2 ☐ Significant Local Gov Impact

☐ Significant Long-Term Impacts ☐ Technical Concerns ☐ Dedicated Revenue Form Attached

FISCAL SUMMARY

	<u>FY 2026</u> <u>Difference</u>	<u>FY 2027</u> <u>Difference</u>	<u>FY 2028</u> <u>Difference</u>	<u>FY 2029</u> <u>Difference</u>
Expenditures				
General Fund (01)	\$37,190	\$0	\$0	\$0
Revenues				
General Fund (01)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Net Impact	<u>(\$37,190)</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>
General Fund Balance				

Description of fiscal impact

SB 330 as amended creates a Montana blockchain and digital innovation task force consisting of 17 members and administered by the Department of Administration. The estimated fiscal impact for FY 2026 is \$37,190.

FISCAL ANALYSIS

Assumptions

Department of Administration

- In Section 1(5) of the bill it states, "(A) Except as provided in subsection (5)(B), member may not receive reimbursement for salary or expenses. (B) Legislative member of the panel must be compensated and receive travel expenses as provided for in 2-15-124, MCA for each day in attendance at task force meetings or in the performance of any duty or service as a task force member."
- The Department of Administration (DOA) is assigned to administer the task force.
- SB 330, as amended, states that there will be three legislative members from the Senate, and three from the House, which will be compensated for travel related expenses. The estimated costs for six legislators to participate is \$34,310 as described below:
 - It is assumed that there will be eight one-day meetings in Helena.
 - Legislator compensation will be \$100 per day, assuming a day for travel and a day for each meeting, totaling \$9,600.
 - An estimated 22,752 total miles will be traveled by the six legislative members for the eight meetings. This estimate is based on the assumption that each member will travel, on average, from a destination 237 miles away from Helena resulting in \$15,926 for mileage reimbursement at a rate of \$0.70 per mile.
 - Per diem is estimated to be \$2,448 for eight trips assuming two breakfasts, two lunches, and one dinner per trip.
 - One night of lodging is assumed per trip and is based on the US General Services Administration lodging rate for Helena which is \$132 per night. Total estimated hotel costs come to \$6,336.

4. It is estimated that it will require DOA administrative support for staffing time to assist in preparing reports, setting up meetings, etc., that will cost an estimated \$2,880 in FY 2026. This estimate is based on eight meetings at 12 hours per meeting at \$30 an hour including salary and benefits.

Department of Justice

5. SB 330, as amended, adds a staff member from the office of the Attorney General to the task force. The members of the task force may not receive reimbursement for salary or expenses accrued by being a member.

Legislative Branch

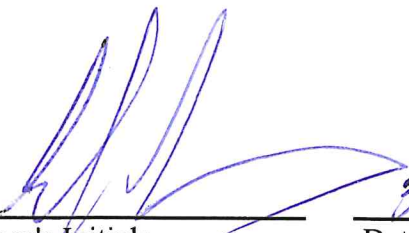
6. SB 330, as amended, allows for legislators to be compensated per 2-15-124, MCA, which is as a "Quasi-Judicial" member. The Department of Administration will process compensation for legislators.
7. The task force shall report its findings to both the Economic Affairs Interim Committee (EAIC) and the Legislative Council (LC) by July 1, 2026. EAIC and LC will absorb review of findings and recommendations as part of normal duties of the committees.
8. It is unknown how many bills are seeking to add to the duties of the Legislative Branch. The fiscal note of each bill is prepared based on the effect of each individual bill. However, when viewed as a package, the cumulative effect of passage of more than one bill will require additional analysis and may require additional resources for staffing and information technology support.
9. There is no fiscal impact to the Legislative Branch.

State Auditor's Office

10. The State Auditor, or the State Auditor's designee, is designated as a member of the task force.
11. Task force members may not receive reimbursement for salary or expenses for the work on the task force.
12. The time and effort related to the task force will be absorbed with current staffing.

Fiscal Analysis Table

	<u>FY 2026</u> <u>Difference</u>	<u>FY 2027</u> <u>Difference</u>	<u>FY 2028</u> <u>Difference</u>	<u>FY 2029</u> <u>Difference</u>
<u>Fiscal Impact</u>				
<u>Expenditures</u>				
Personal Services	\$37,190	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL Expenditures	\$37,190	\$0	\$0	\$0
<u>Funding of Expenditures</u>				
General Fund (01)	\$37,190	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL Funding of Expenditures	\$37,190	\$0	\$0	\$0
<u>Revenues</u>				
<u>Net Impact to Fund Balance (Revenue minus Funding of Expenditures)</u>				
General Fund (01)	(\$37,190)	\$0	\$0	\$0


 Sponsor's Initials _____ Date 3/31/24


 Budget Director's Initials _____ Date 3/28/2025