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Proposed schedule of Judicial Committee

David L. Holland

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TO: MEMBERS OF THE JUDICIAL COMMITTEE

Re: Proposed schedule of Judicial Committee

The proposed schedule of the Judiciary Committee which will be submitted to the Committee for its consideration:

- 1. A review of the present constitutional provisions now as signed by the President, to-wit: Article XIII and Article XIX, Section 4 Section 5 of the present Constitution. It will be proposed that designated portions of the Constitution be fully read and discussed by the Committee prior to entering into any hearings for proposed changes.
- 2. The proponents of the so-called Montana Plan are expected to present a complete Judicial Article. Individuals and members of groups supporting the Plan have indicated that they will be prepared at an early nearing to present testimony in support of the Montana Plan. The following are such individuals or members of such groups: Robert Sullivan, Dean of School of Law; Professor David R. Mason, retired Professor of School of Law; Mr. George Schotte, Chairman Citizens Conference Montana Judicial System; William H. Bellingham, President of the Montana Bar Association; and Mr. Glen Winters, Director American Judicature Society.

It is to be noted that not all of the foregoing have indicated they approve of the Montana Plan but it is believed all the foregoing witnesses have studied the Plan and are prepared to offer testimony to the Committee either in support of, or modification of the Montana Plan. The reason that these individuals have been contacted at this time is because it has come to the attention of the members of the Committee that considerable work had been done on the Montana Plan by individuals or groups that they represent.

The foregoing witnesses including those who are proponents of the Montana Plan which is a complete Judicial Article and which contains, among other things, features regarding Court Administration, appointment of Judges, and appointment of Court officers. It is expected that the later hearings would thereupon consider in its entirety all problems of:

A. Supreme Court, including:

- (1) The powers of the Supreme Court.
- (2) The method of selecting Supreme Court Judges.
- (3) Tenure and number of Supreme Court Justices.
- (4) Qualifications of Supreme Court Judges.

B. District Court:

- (1) Selection of District Court Judges.
- (2) Powers of the District Court.
- (3) Tenure of District Court Judges.
- (4) Qualifications of District Court Judges.

C. Justice Court:

- (1) Designation of Justice Court, or in the alternative, some other type of inferior Court.
- (2) Whether such inferior Court should be Constitutional in character.
- (3) If Constitutional in character, the qualifications of the Judges and power of the said Court.

D. Court Administration:

- (1) Whether there should be an integrated administration of all Montana Courts, in what body or person should such administration be vested.
- (2) The method of execution or appointment of said bod; if there be a contral administration of all Montana Courts.

. E. Court Officials:

- (1) Whether the Court officers should be constitutional in character. If so, whether they should be appointed or elective.
 - (2) The duties and tenure of said officials.
 - F. Such additional problems as may come before the Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

David Halland

Chairman Judicial Committee