



Brad Longcake
MPMCSA Executive Director



MONTANA MESSAGE



Greetings from Montana! Well, the start to 2025 has been nothing if not interesting. Nationally the transition to the new administration has been the most lively we have ever experienced. The flurry of executive orders and broad sweeping changes from the president and his Department of Government Efficiency have been unprecedented. We have only begun to see the impacts, and still every day seems to bring something new.

Meanwhile, the 69th session of the Montana Legislature is underway in Helena. Things got started January 6th and also included fireworks in the early days. Republicans have the majority in both the House and Senate. But on day one, nine moderate Republicans broke from party lines and aligned with Senate Democrats. It took a couple weeks to settle into what the new normal was going to be, resulting in a slow start to the movement of legislation. There has also been an ongoing ethics complaint against former Senate President Jason Elsworth that has further disrupted the flow, as the Senate has navigated the appropriate channels to address it. Just before the transmittal break, a second ethics complaint was brought against current Senate President Matt Regier, and that will be addressed in the coming weeks. Needless to say, it has been particularly interesting to navigate an already emotionally charged environment.



**Senate President
Matt Regier**



The priorities for the state as a whole during this legislative session have included a broad focus on property tax relief, judicial reform and the sunset of the current Medicaid Expansion program.

For MPMCSA the session has been busy but moving along smoothly. I am following close to 300 bills and have weighed in on a large percentage of them. We have worked closely with stakeholders from across the state and DEQ with the ongoing work regarding the PTRCB fund.



Our group has worked against a variety of bills that would have negatively impacted our members, including some to ban plastic bags and styrofoam containers. There have been several bills related to tobacco, including several large tax increases this session. Vapor products have been top of mind and have had several bills related to them, especially after Rep Marshall resigned his position. He currently owns several Vape stores throughout MT. I have worked on other bills related to cigarettes that are heat, not burn, and also the vapor registry bill.

There are a litany of other bills that the MPMCSA has been working on; they range from issues related to electric vehicles and electric charging stations, alcohol, milk, local option taxes, credit card fees, as well as a bill related to lowering the threshold for theft/shoplifting. We've worked with several departments as well as other key stakeholders to find solutions to very complex issues. I look forward to sharing all of our wins and successes over the last four months of the session with everyone at our upcoming convention in Fairmont on June 3rd and 4th.

The end of the session is always particularly exciting as things are coming down to the wire. We expect the adjournment, sine die, to come in early May, just in time for our annual trek to DC for the EMA Day on the Hill.

Don't forget to register for our annual Convention and Trade Show June 3rd and 4th at the beautiful Fairmont Resort and Hot Springs. We expect a great showing again this year.

We have made a change to the schedule of events for Tuesday, June 3rd. There has been interest in participating in both trap shooting and golf, so this year we are working to accommodate both. Trap shooting will start at 8 am at the Anaconda Trap Club, and the golf tournament will tee off at 11 am at the course at Fairmont. We have a great lineup of guests and speakers for Wednesday and look forward to a full debriefing on the legislative happenings from me.

Brad Longcake

Brad Longcake,
Executive Director, Montana Petroleum Marketers
and Convenience Store Association

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS JUNE 3 - 4, 2025

Fairmont Hot Springs Resort

Schedule as of April 29, 2025

TUESDAY, June 3rd

You Can Now SHOOT and GOLF!

8:00 a.m. **Trap Shoot** at Anaconda Trap Club
This year's 2025 MPMCSA trap shoot event will be a **20 yard draw your partner backer**. First, second and third place team awards, as well as HOA for men and women will be awarded. Awards are sponsored by Alpha Transport Inc



11:00 a.m. **Golf Tournament**
at **Fairmont Hot Springs Resort**
Golf Course with lunch
Check-in starts at 10 a.m.

2:00 – 6:00 p.m. **REGISTRATION OPEN**

2:00 – 6:00 p.m. Exhibitor Booth set up

5:00 – 7:00 p.m. **Welcome Reception**

WEDNESDAY, June 4th

7:30 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. **REGISTRATION OPEN**

7:30 – 8:30 a.m. **Breakfast**

8:30 a.m. **MPMCSA GENERAL BUSINESS SESSION**

MPMCSA Membership Business

by Executive Director, MPMCSA
- **Brad Longcake**



PTRCB Changes

by Executive Director, PTRCB Fund
- **Terry Wadsworth** and
President, PTRCB Board
- **John Monahan**



DEQ Updates

by DEQ Director - **Sonja Nowakowski**



Weights and Measures: What's New?

by Bureau Chief, Weights and Measures
- **Eric Copeland**



12:00 – 4:00 p.m. **TRADE SHOW**
with **Lunch and Speaker**

1 p.m. **Luncheon Speaker**
Montana State Auditor
- **Jim Brown**



5:00 p.m. **RECEPTION**
and **Silent Auction**

6:00 p.m. **Dinner and Live Auction**

SUBJECT TO CHANGE