

## MINUTES

### MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 60th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

#### COMMITTEE ON TAXATION

**Call to Order:** By Chairman Bob Lake, on January 17, 2007 at 8:00 A.M., in Room 152 Capitol.

#### ROLL CALL

**Members Present:**

Rep. Bob Lake, Chairman (R)  
Rep. Jill Cohenour, Vice Chairman (D)  
Rep. Jon Sonju, Vice Chairman (R)  
Rep. Norma Bixby (D)  
Rep. Mark Blasdel (R)  
Rep. Edward B. Butcher (R)  
Rep. Ron Erickson (D)  
Rep. Wanda Grinde (D)  
Rep. Robin Hamilton (D)  
Rep. Edward Hilbert (R)  
Rep. Mike Jopek (D)  
Rep. Carol Lambert (R)  
Rep. Gary MacLaren (R)  
Rep. Dave McAlpin (D)  
Rep. Bill Nooney (R)  
Rep. JP Pomnichowski (D)  
Rep. John (Jack) W. Ross (R)  
Rep. Chas Vincent (R)

**Members Excused:** None.

**Members Absent:** None.

**Staff Present:** Jeff Martin, Legislative Branch  
Debra Polhemus, Committee Secretary

**Audio Committees:** These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

**Committee Business Summary:**

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 149, 1/11/2007; HB 196,  
1/11/2007; HB 166, 1/12/2007; HB  
220, 1/12/2007

00:02:13 Chairman Lake

[EXHIBIT \(tah11a01\)](#)

**HEARING ON HB 220**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:02:37 Rep. Craig Witte (R), HD 8, opened the hearing on HB  
220, Reduce individual income tax rates.

**Proponents' Testimony:** None

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:03:57 Rep. McAlpin  
00:07:05 Rep. Butcher  
00:10:19 Rep. Nooney  
00:11:43 Rep. Jopek  
00:12:59 Rep. McAlpin  
00:15:43 Rep. Nooney

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:19:08 Rep. Craig Witte

**HEARING ON HB 149**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:23:58 Rep. Mike Jopek (D), HD 4, opened the hearing on HB  
149, Increase homestead debt protection.

[EXHIBIT \(tah11a02\)](#)

[EXHIBIT \(tah11a03\)](#)

**Proponents' Testimony:** None

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:27:03 Rep. Ross  
00:27:51 Rep. McAlpin  
00:28:46 Rep. Sonju  
00:29:29 Rep. Erickson  
00:30:28 Rep. Cohenour

**Closing by Sponsor:**

Rep. Mike Jopek

00:32:55 Recess  
01:59:16 Resume

**HEARING ON HB 196**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

01:59:48 Rep. Michael Lange (R), HD 55, opened the hearing on HB 196, Create coal development impact fund.

**Proponents' Testimony:** None

**Opponents' Testimony:**

02:05:38 Rick Moore, representing Northern Plains Resource Council

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

02:06:47 Rep. Cohenour  
02:10:16 Chris Hunter, Chief of Fisheries, Montana Fish,  
Wildlife & Parks Department  
02:02:23 Rep. Cohenour  
02:15:23 Rep. Jopek  
02:15:45 Evan Barrett, Chief Business Development Officer,  
Governor's Office of Economic Development  
02:20:02 Rep. Sonju  
02:23:04 Rep. Hamilton  
02:24:01 Rep. Lambert  
02:24:58 Rep. McAlpin  
02:27:32 Rep. Erickson  
02:29:57 Rep. Ross  
02:34:31 Rep. Jopek  
02:38:14 Rep. Lambert  
02:39:33 Rep. Cohenour  
02:40:57 Rep. Vincent  
02:48:08 Rep. Erickson

**Closing by Sponsor:**

02:51:25 Rep. Michael Lange

**HEARING ON HB 166**

Due to scheduling conflicts the Hearing of HB 166 (Rep. Holly Raser (D), HD 98 Extend biodiesel tax credit) was cancelled and will be re-scheduled.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 11:00 A.M.  
02:54:27

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REP. BOB LAKE, Chairman

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DEBRA POLHEMUS, Secretary

BL/dp

Additional Exhibits:

**EXHIBIT ([tah11aad.pdf](#))**