

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 60th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON TAXATION

Call to Order: By Chairman Bob Lake, on February 8, 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 533, 2/2/2007; HB 559, 2/5/2007
Executive Action: HB 469; HB 345

HEARING ON HB 533

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:02:13 Rep. Duane Ankney (R), HD 43, opened the hearing on HB 533, Increase coal board funding.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:08:36 Willie Duffield, Executive Director, Montana Association of Oil, Gas and Coal Counties, Inc.

[EXHIBIT \(tah28a01\)](#)

[EXHIBIT \(tah28a02\)](#)

00:11:42 Bob Gilbert, representing Rosebud County
00:12:44 Bud Clinch, Executive Director, Montana Coal Council
00:16:56 Todd O'Hair, Rio Tinto Energy America
00:18:43 Bill Kennedy, Yellowstone County Commissioner
00:21:30 Gary Amestoy, representing Richland County Economic Development Council
00:22:55 Haley Beaudry, mining engineer
00:24:12 Rep. Carol Lambert, HD (39)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:25:47 Rep. Cohenour
00:26:37 Rep. Erickson
00:27:47 Rep. Ross
00:33:20 Rep. Erickson
00:33:37 Steve Austin, Accounting and Allocating Coal Tax Revenues, Department of Revenue
00:35:32 Rep. Jopek
00:36:48 Jeff Martin, Research Analyst, Legislative Services Division
00:37:29 Rep. Ankney
00:38:15 Rep. Lambert
00:39:24 Rep. Cohenour
00:39:54 Rep. Vincent
00:40:05 Bud Clinch
00:41:00 Chairman Lake
00:42:55 Rep. Erickson
00:43:25 Rep. Cohenour

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: (con't)

00:43:56 Chairman Lake
00:44:57 Haley Beaudry
00:47:01 Willie Duffield
00:47:48 Rep. Cohenour
00:49:35 Bud Clinch
00:50:56 Rep. Lambert

Closing by Sponsor:

00:52:42 Rep. Duane Ankney

00:56:33 Recess
01:12:02 Reconvene

HEARING ON HB 559

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:12:09 Rep. Ralph Heinert (R), HD 1, opened the hearing on HB 559, Increase retirement income exclusion on state income tax.

Proponents' Testimony:

01:15:18 Jerry Driscoll, self

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

01:18:20 Brian Olsen, Income Tax Specialist, Department of Revenue

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:18:45 Rep. Ross
01:19:15 Brian Olsen
01:19:44 Rep. Cohenour
01:20:32 Rep. Erickson

Closing by Sponsor:

01:21:39 Rep. Ralph Heinert

01:24:29 Rep. Erickson
01:25:55 Brian Olsen

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 345

01:27:29 **Motion:** Rep. Sonju moved that **HB 345 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

01:27:43 Chairman Lake

01:28:23 Rep. Cohenour

01:29:25 Rep. Jopek

01:30:16 Rep. Lambert

01:30:29 **Motion:** Rep. Sonju withdrew his motion.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 469

01:31:05 **Motion:** Rep. Sonju moved that **HB 469 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

01:31:35 Rep. Cohenour

01:32:00 Chairman Lake

01:32:33 Rep. McAlpin

01:32:45 Chairman Lake

01:33:03 Rep. Cohenour

01:35:16 Rep. McAlpin

01:35:37 Rep. Lambert

01:36:32 Rep. Hilbert

01:37:47 Rep. Erickson

01:38:20 Rep. Nooney

01:38:39 Rep. Grinde

01:39:01 Rep. Cohenour

01:40:37 Rep. Nooney

01:41:07 Rep. Cohenour

01:41:46 Rep. Vincent

01:42:30 Chairman Lake

01:42:40 Jeff Martin

01:43:36 Rep. Hilbert

01:44:17 Rep. Cohenour

01:45:06 **Vote:** **MOTION CARRIED** 11-7 by roll call vote with Reps. Bixby, Cohenour, Erickson, Grinde, Hamilton, McAlpin, and Pomnichowski voting no and Rep. Pomnichowski voting by proxy.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 9:45 A.M.

REP. BOB LAKE, Chairman

DEBRA POLHEMUS, Secretary

BL/dp

Additional Exhibits:

EXHIBIT ([tah28aad.pdf](#))