

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 60th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON TAXATION

Call to Order: By Vice Chairman Jill Cohenour, on March 19, 2007
at 9:00 A.M., in Room 152 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

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. Bob Lake, Chairman (R)
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: Rep. Mike Jopek (D)

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: SB 161, 3/13/2007; SB 215,
3/9/2007; SB 139, 3/9/2007

Executive Action: None

HEARING ON SB 161

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:01:18 Sen. Rick Laible (R), SD 44, opened the hearing on SB
161, Revise captive insurance laws.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:06:38 Gordy Higgins, Deputy State Auditor

EXHIBIT (tah58a01)

00:09:17 Amy Minto, representing, Attorneys' Liability
Protection Services (ALPS)

00:11:21 Dick Brown, Senior Vice President, Montana Hospital
Association (MHA)

00:13:03 Larry Kibbee, representing Attorneys' Liability
Protection Services (ALPS)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

00:15:01 John Huth, Captive Coordinator, State Auditors Office

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:15:32 Rep. Hamilton

00:16:53 Rep. McAlpin

00:17:47 Rep. Nooney

00:18:58 Rep. Butcher

00:31:31 Rep. Ross

00:33:29 Rep. Lambert

00:37:07 Rep. Sonju

00:41:01 Rep. Cohenour

00:42:41 Rep. Nooney

00:43:57 Rep. Butcher

Closing by Sponsor:

00:48:21 Sen. Rick Laible

00:54:34 Vice Chair Sonju assumed position as Chairman

HEARING ON SB 215

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:54:50 Sen. Dan Harrington (D), SD 38, opened the hearing on SB 215, Revise property tax levy limit to adjust for inflation.

00:55:36 Chairman Lake arrived at hearing

Proponents' Testimony:

00:57:20 Sheryl Wood, Associate Director, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)

00:59:05 J.D. Lynch, representing Butte-Silverbow Counties

00:59:42 Joe Mazurek, representing City of Great Falls

01:00:51 Tim Burton, City Manager, Helena

01:02:14 Alec Hanson, League of Cities and Towns

[EXHIBIT \(tah58a02\)](#)

01:06:50 Don Judge, representing Teamsters Local #190

Opponents' Testimony:

01:07:46 Mary Whittinghill, Montana Taxpayers Association

Informational Testimony:

01:11:32 Ed Caplis, Department of Revenue

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:11:52 Rep. Butcher

01:17:48 Rep. Cohenour

01:19:59 Rep. Nooney

01:24:08 Rep. Erickson

01:26:13 Rep. Ross

01:29:30 Alec Hanson

[EXHIBIT \(tah58a03\)](#)

01:29:40 Rep. Cohenour

Closing by Sponsor:

01:31:31 Sen. Dan Harrington

HEARING ON SB 139

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:32:43 Sen. Dan Harrington (D), SD 38, opened the hearing on SB 139, Governor's \$400 property tax rebate.

[EXHIBIT\(tah58a04\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(tah58a05\)](#)

Proponents' Testimony:

01:39:52 Don Judge, representing Teamsters Local #190

01:42:54 Kim Patterson, Helena resident

01:44:03 Betty Beverly, Helena resident

01:45:09 Tom Bilodeau, MEA/MFT

01:46:44 Ann Harrie, Helena resident

01:47:53 Dan Casey, Carpenter, Helena resident

01:48:25 Sandi Curriero-Luckey, Helena resident

[EXHIBIT\(tah58a06\)](#)

01:50:42 Abigail McLane

01:51:21 Claudia Clifford, Associate Director, AARP Montana

01:52:38 Pat Torgerson, Helena resident

01:53:15 Jennifer O'Loughlin, Helena homeowner

01:55:34 Dan Bucks, Director, Department of Revenue

[EXHIBIT\(tah58a07\)](#)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

02:05:43 Rep. Nooney

02:06:29 Dan Bucks

02:10:49 Rep. Butcher

02:16:31 Rep. Ross

02:18:57 Rep. Erickson

02:21:20 Rep. McAlpin

02:23:06 Rep. Cohenour

02:25:56 Rep. Sonju

Closing by Sponsor:

02:26:24 Sen. Dan Harrington

02:29:04 Chairman Lake

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 11:30 A.M.

REP. BOB LAKE, Chairman

DEBRA POLHEMUS, Secretary

BL/dp

Additional Exhibits:

EXHIBIT ([tah58aad.pdf](#))