

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 60th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON TAXATION

Call to Order: By Chairman Bob Lake, on April 4, 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)

Members Excused: Rep. Chas Vincent (R)

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 529, 3/15/2007; SB 549,
3/20/2007; SB 552, 3/30/2007; SB
470, 3/28/2007

Executive Action: HB 833

HEARING ON SB 549

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:01:25 Sen. Bob Story (R), SD 30, opened the hearing on SB 549, Revise property tax classification criteria of certain agricultural land.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:03:20 Randy Wilke, Department of Revenue

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

00:16:18 Dallas Reece, Department of Revenue

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:16:33 Rep. Erickson
00:18:45 Sen. Story
00:18:58 Rep. Cohenour
00:19:29 Dallas Reece
00:19:56 Rep. Ross
00:20:24 Dallas Reece
00:21:05 Sen. Story

Closing by Sponsor:

00:21:40 Sen. Bob Story

HEARING ON SB 529

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:22:28 Sen. Jeff Essmann (R), SD 28, opened the hearing on SB 529, Constitutionally restrict property taxes.

Proponents' Testimony: None

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: None

Closing by Sponsor:

00:26:10 Sen. Jeff Essmann

HEARING ON SB 552

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:26:45 Sen. Dan Harrington (D), SD 38, opened the hearing on SB 552, Tax credit for volunteer firefighters.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:27:49 David Kneebone, Volunteer Firefighter
00:30:29 Leonard Lundby, Fire Chief, Manchester Volunteer Fire Company
00:32:27 Brett Waters, Fire Chief, Belgrade and Gallatin County
00:35:30 Bob Drake, Fire Chief, Tri Lakes Fire Department
00:36:52 Jerry Shepherd, Fire Chief, West Valley Fire Department
00:38:09 Cliff Christian, representing the American Heart Association and American Stroke Association
00:40:48 Brian Crandell, Central Valley Fire District

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

00:41:26 Brian Olsen, Department of Revenue

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:41:43 Rep. Butcher
00:44:55 Rep. Ross

Closing by Sponsor:

00:45:53 Sen. Dan Harrington

HEARING ON SB 470

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:46:40 Sen. Jim Elliott (D), SD 7, opened the hearing on SB 470, Make grantor trusts pass-through entities for tax withholding and reporting.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:53:38 Brenda Gilmer, Department of Revenue
[EXHIBIT](#)(tah72a01)

Opponents' Testimony:

01:00:01 George Olsen, Montana Society of CPA's

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:06:46 Rep. Cohenour
01:12:15 George Olsen
01:15:14 Rep. Lambert
01:16:58 Rep. Butcher
01:18:56 George Olsen
01:19:38 Rep. Erickson
01:20:34 George Olsen
01:20:49 Brenda Gilmer
01:25:39 Rep. Hamilton
01:26:14 George Olsen
01:30:05 Rep. Cohenour
01:31:30 Brenda Gilmer
01:33:11 Chairman Lake
01:33:53 Brenda Gilmer

Closing by Sponsor:

01:35:22 Sen. Jim Elliott
[EXHIBIT](#)(tah72a02)

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 833

01:44:52 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Sonju moved that **HB 833 DO PASS.**
MOTION CARRIED 11-7 by roll call vote with Reps. Bixby, Cohenour, Erickson, Grinde, Hamilton, McAlpin, and Pomnichowski voting no and Rep. Vincent voting by proxy.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 10:00 A.M.

REP. BOB LAKE, Chairman

DEBRA POLHEMUS, Secretary

BL/dp