

**MINUTES**

**MONTANA SENATE  
60th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

**COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

**Call to Order:** By **CHAIRMAN KIM GILLAN**, on March 6, 2007 at 3:05 P.M., in Room 303 Capitol.

**ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:**

Sen. Kim Gillan, Chairman (D)  
Sen. John Esp (R)  
Sen. Kelly Gebhardt (R)  
Sen. Bob Hawks (D)  
Sen. Carol C. Juneau (D)  
Sen. Rick Laible (R)  
Sen. Lynda Moss (D)  
Sen. Terry Murphy (R)  
Sen. Jerry O'Neil (R)  
Sen. Mitch Tropila (D)  
Sen. Carol Williams (D)

**Members Excused:** None.

**Members Absent:** None.

**Staff Present:** Sue O'Connell, Legislative Branch  
Marigail Schreiner, 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 369, HB 22, HB 102, 2/28/2007  
Executive Action: HB 22, HB 102

00:00:00 Opening comments by Chairman Gillan  
00:02:43 Sue O'Connell  
00:06:27 Sen. Gebhardt  
00:07:14 Chairman Gillan  
00:08:24 Sen. Esp  
00:08:35 Break  
00:32:19 Commencement of hearing  
00:32:21 Comments by Chairman Gillan

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**HEARING ON HB 369**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:34:16 **REP. JP POMNICHOWSKI (D), HD 63**, opened the hearing on  
**HB 369**, Increase county borrowing limit.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:36:58 Michael Harris on behalf of the Gallatin County  
Commissioners

**EXHIBIT (los47a01)**

00:42:06 Harold Blattie, Executive Director, Montana Association  
of Counties

**EXHIBIT (los47a02)**

00:44:51 Gordon Morris on behalf of Lewis and Clark County  
00:45:27 Daniel Watson, Rosebud County Commissioner  
00:46:00 Gary Amestoy, Economic Development Corporation and  
Richland County

**Opponents' Testimony:**

00:46:30 None

**Informational Testimony:**

00:46:35 None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:46:39 Sen. Esp to Harold Blattie

00:49:28 Sen. Esp to Rep. Pomnichowski

00:51:13 Sen. Laible to Harold Blattie

00:52:40 Sen. Gebhardt to Harold Blattie

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:54:35 Rep. Pomnichowski

**HEARING ON HB 22**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:55:49 **REP. DAVE MCALPIN (D), HD 94**, opened the hearing on **HB 22**, Clarify distribution of revenue from fee in lieu of tax on heavy vehicles.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:57:05 Steve Austin, Montana Department of Revenue

00:58:04 Harold Blattie, Executive Director, Montana Association of Counties

**Opponents' Testimony:**

00:58:34 None

**Informational Testimony:**

00:58:41 None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:58:47 Chairman Gillan to Rep. McAlpin

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:59:42 Rep. McAlpin

00:59:49 Sen. Williams left

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**HEARING ON HB 102**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

01:00:25 **REP. HAL JACOBSON (D), HD 82**, opened the hearing on **HB 102**, Revise laws on public financing for special districts.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

01:06:50 Anne Miller, Department of Natural Resources

[EXHIBIT\(los47a03\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(los47a04\)](#)

01:09:50 Gordon Morris on behalf of Lewis and Clark County

01:10:22 Alec Hansen, League of Cities and Towns

**Opponents' Testimony:**

01:10:54 None

**Informational Testimony:**

01:11:02 Dan Semmens, Bond Counsel, Darcy and Whitney

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

01:16:09 Sen. Laible to Dan Semmens

01:18:19 Sen. Esp to Rep. Jacobson

01:19:32 Chairman Gillan to Rep. Jacobson

**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:19:46 Rep. Jacobson

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 22**

01:21:06 **Motion/Vote:** SEN. ESP moved that HB 22 BE CONCURRED IN. Motion carried unanimously. SEN. GILLAN will carry HB 22 on the Senate Floor.

01:21:54 Comments by Committee Members

01:23:37 Chairman Gillan

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 102**

01:23:57 **Motion/Vote:** SEN. GEBHARDT moved that HB 102 BE CONCURRED IN. Motion carried 8-2 by voice vote with SEN. ESP and SEN. O'NEIL voting no. SEN. MOSS will carry HB 102 on the Senate Floor.

01:24:53 Sen. Laible to Sen. Esp

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 4:30 P.M.

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SEN. KIM GILLAN, Chairman

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MARIGAIL SCHREINER, Secretary

KG/ms

Additional Exhibits:

**EXHIBIT ([los47aad.pdf](#))**