

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 61st LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON TAXATION

00:00:54 **Call to Order: CHAIRMAN BOB LAKE**, on January 22, 200
at 9:05 A.M., in Room 472 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Bob Lake, Chairman (R)
Rep. Jill Cohenour, Vice Chairman (D)
Rep. Janna Taylor, Vice Chairman (R)
Rep. Dick Barrett (D)
Rep. Mark Blasdel (R)
Rep. Edward B. Butcher (R)
Rep. Wanda Grinde (D)
Rep. Robin Hamilton (D)
Rep. Brian Hoven (R)
Rep. Mike Jopek (D)
Rep. Dave McAlpin (D)
Rep. Mike Miller (R)
Rep. Art Noonan (D)
Rep. JP Pomnichowski (D)
Rep. Lee Randall (R)
Rep. J. David Roundstone (D)
Rep. Jon Sonju (R)
Rep. Wayne Stahl (R)
Rep. Chas Vincent (R)
Rep. Brady Wiseman (D)

Members Excused: None.

Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Jeff Martin, Legislative Branch
Jennifer O'Loughlin, 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 249, 1/21/2009; HB 259,
1/21/2009

Executive Action: None

HEARING ON HB 259

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:01:43 REP. SCOTT MENDENHALL (R), HD 77, opened the hearing on HB 259, Income tax credit for volunteer firefighters.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:04:40 David Kneebone, Volunteer Firefighter
00:11:00 Leonard Lundby, Chairman, Montana Fire Alliance

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:15:16 Chairman Lake
00:15:22 Rep. Mendenhall
00:15:35 Rep. Wiseman
00:15:45 Rep. Mendenhall

Closing by Sponsor:

00:16:03 Rep. Mendenhall
00:17:50 Chairman Lake closed the hearing.

HEARING ON HB 249

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:18:02 REP. WAYNE STAHL (R), HD 35, opened the hearing on HB 249, Tax perpetual conservation easements - publicly owned are taxable.

[EXHIBIT](#)(tah15a01)

[EXHIBIT](#)(tah15a02)

00:23:19 Rep. Stahl
00:24:09 Rep. Cohenour
00:24:34 Chairman Lake
00:24:44 Rep. Stahl
00:26:31 Jeff Martin

Proponents' Testimony:

00:27:46 Nancy Schlepp, Montana Farm Bureau

Opponents' Testimony:

00:30:00 Andrew Dana, Bozeman attorney, conservation easement law

[EXHIBIT \(tah15a03\)](#)

00:39:48 Jay Erickson, Montana Land Reliance

[EXHIBIT \(tah15a04\)](#)

[EXHIBIT \(tah15a05\)](#)

00:45:59 Glenn Marx, Montana Association of Land Trusts

00:51:15 John MacDonald, City of Missoula

[EXHIBIT \(tah15a06\)](#)

00:52:01 Mike Harris, Open Lands Coordinator, Gallatin County

[EXHIBIT \(tah15a07\)](#) Harris testimony

00:55:07 Paul Sihler, Administrator, Field Services Division, Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks (FWP)

[EXHIBIT \(tah15a08\)](#)

00:58:12 Carl Seilstad, First Vice President, Montana Association of Counties

00:59:06 Janet Ellis, Montana Audubon

Informational Testimony:

00:59:29 Angus MacIver, Legislative Audit Division

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:01:20 Rep. Cohenour
01:01:56 Mr. MacIver
01:03:52 Rep. Cohenour
01:04:28 Mr. Marx
01:04:35 Chairman Lake
01:04:40 Rep. Butcher
01:06:05 Mr. Dana
01:06:45 Rep. Sonju left the room.
01:07:38 Rep. Butcher
01:08:51 Mr. Dana
01:09:37 Rep. Noonan
01:11:13 Rep. Stahl

01:13:50 Rep. Jopek
01:14:46 Rep. Stahl
01:15:34 Rep. Jopek
01:16:23 Rep. Stahl
01:16:51 Rep. Wiseman
01:17:44 Ms. Schlepp
01:18:26 Rep. Wiseman
01:18:39 Ms. Schlepp
01:19:16 Rep. Wiseman
01:19:36 Ms. Schlepp
01:20:27 Rep. Wiseman
01:21:20 Rep. Stahl
01:21:37 Rep. Wiseman
01:21:57 Rep. Stahl
01:23:55 Rep. Wiseman
01:24:05 Rep. Stahl
01:24:32 Chairman Lake
01:24:43 Rep. Butcher
01:25:20 Rep. Stahl
01:25:25 Chairman Lake
01:25:37 Rep. Butcher
01:27:34 Rep. Stahl
01:27:57 Chairman Lake
01:28:13 Rep. Butcher
01:28:44 Chairman Lake
01:28:50 Rep. Cohenour
01:30:08 Mr. Marx
01:30:39 Rep. Cohenour
01:30:43 Chairman Lake
01:30:55 Mr. Marx
01:31:19 Rep. Jopek
01:32:07 Mr. Dana
01:32:29 Rep. Jopek
01:32:52 Mr. Dana

Closing by Sponsor:

01:33:22 Rep. Stahl

01:40:52 Chairman Lake closed the hearing.

ADJOURNMENT

01:41:38 Adjournment: 10:45 A.M.

JENNIFER O'LOUGHLIN, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT ([tah15aad.pdf](#))