

00:00:03

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 61st LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON TAXATION

Call to Order: Chairman Bob Lake, on January 30, 2009 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. 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 115, 1/27/2009; HB 312,
1/27/2009; SB 116, 1/27/2009

Executive Action: None

HEARING ON SB 116

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:02:56 Sen. Jim Keane (D), SD 38, opened the hearing on
SB 116, Clarify aviation fuel tax distribution.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:04:08 Debbie Alke, Administrator, Aeronautics Division,
Department of Transportation
00:05:12 Rick Griffith, Manager, Butte Airport
00:05:53 Tom Ebzery, Montana Airport Managers Association
00:06:16 Bob Gilbert, Montana Aviation Trades Association

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:06:54 Rep. Noonan
00:07:12 Rep. Keane
00:07:28 Rep. Stahl
00:07:44 Rep. Keane
00:07:58 Rep. STahl
00:08:17 Ms. Alke
00:08:37 Rep. Taylor
00:09:02 Ms. Alke
00:09:26 Rep. Taylor
00:09:40 Ms. Alke

Closing by Sponsor:

00:09:57 Sen. Keane

00:10:49 Chairman Lake closed the hearing.

HEARING ON HB 312

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:11:03 Rep. Bill Beck (R), HD 6, opened the hearing on HB 312,
Increase population requirement for resort tax
purposes.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:16:20 Sen. Zinke
00:19:51 Mike Jensen, Mayor of Whitefish
00:22:12 Lin Akey, Whitefish resident
00:24:11 Doug Reed, Whitefish Resident and Business Owner,
Chairman of Resort Tax Committee
00:26:03 Chuck Stearns, Whitefish City Manager
00:27:38 Alec Hansen, Montana League of City and Towns

EXHIBIT (tah22a01)

Opponents' Testimony:

00:29:33 Don Hoffman, Montana Taxpayers Association

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:32:10 Rep. Barrett
00:32:41 Lin Akey
00:34:03 Rep. Barrett
00:34:15 Rep. Butcher
00:35:59 Chairman Lake
00:36:06 Rep. Butcher
00:36:59 Lin Akey
00:38:04 Rep. Jopek
00:38:45 Gene Walborn
00:38:51 Chairman Lake
00:39:00 Gene Walborn
00:39:07 Rep. Jopek
00:40:06 Mike Jensen
00:42:07 Rep. Sonju
00:42:57 Chuck Stearns
00:43:30 Mike Jensen
00:44:01 Rep. Sonju
00:45:26 Rep. McAlpin
00:45:46 Alec Hansen
00:46:56 Rep. Noonan
00:47:22 Jeff Martin
00:48:01 Rep. Noonan

00:48:21 Chairman Lake
00:48:42 Jeff Martin
00:48:49 Chairman Lake
00:49:25 Chuck Stearns

Closing by Sponsor:

00:49:49 Rep. Beck

00:52:15 Chairman Lake closed the hearing.

HEARING ON HB 115

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:52:48 Rep. Julie French (D), HD 36, opened the hearing on
HB 115, Expand cell phone property tax incentives.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:58:45 Gene Walborn, Bureau Chief, Business and Income Taxes
Division, Department of Revenue
01:05:13 Bonnie Lorang, Montana Independent Telecommunications
Systems

[EXHIBIT \(tah22a02\)](#)

[EXHIBIT \(tah22a03\)](#)

01:16:38 Ron Ostberg, Sagebrush Cellular

[EXHIBIT \(tah22a04\)](#)

01:25:26 Geoff Feiss, General Manager, General Communications
Association

[EXHIBIT \(tah22a05\)](#)

01:31:41 Bonnie Lorang

[EXHIBIT \(tah22a06\)](#)

[EXHIBIT \(tah22a07\)](#)

01:32:18 Phil Maxwell, Three Rivers Telephone Cooperative

Opponents' Testimony:

01:33:38 Bob Gilbert, Montana Association of Oil, Gas and Coal
Counties

01:36:09 Ameer Grmoljez, Verizon Wireless

[EXHIBIT \(tah22a08\)](#)

01:42:02 Margaret Morgan, AllTel Communications

01:44:55 John Bennion, Montana Chamber of Commerce

01:47:08 Harold Blattie, Executive Director, Montana Association
of Counties

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:50:28 Rep. Cohenour
01:50:54 Mr. Walborn
01:52:28 Rep. Butcher
01:53:14 Mr. Walborn
01:54:43 Chairman Lake
01:55:02 Rep. Butcher
01:56:08 Ms. Morgan
01:56:44 Chairman Lake
01:57:01 Rep. Butcher
01:57:15 Chairman Lake
01:57:26 Rep. Butcher
01:57:43 Chairman Lake
01:58:02 Rep. Wiseman
01:59:13 Ms. Lorang
02:01:19 Rep. Sonju
02:01:51 Ron Ostberg
02:02:05 Rep. Sonju
02:02:15 Mr. Ostberg
02:03:34 Rep. Sonju
02:03:41 Mr. Ostberg
02:03:49 Rep. Sonju
02:03:55 Mr. Ostberg
02:04:26 Rep. Sonju
02:05:00 Mr. Ostberg
02:06:08 Rep. Sonju
02:06:19 Rep. French
02:08:42 Rep. Miller
02:08:56 Rep. Butcher
02:09:56 Ms. Lorang
02:11:43 Rep. Butcher
02:12:20 Ms. Lorang
02:12:48 Rep. Butcher
02:13:02 Ms. Lorang
02:13:25 Chairman Lake
02:14:15 Mr. Feiss
02:14:45 Chairman Lake
02:15:08 Rep. Wiseman
02:15:21 Chairman Lake
02:15:40 Rep. Butcher
02:16:37 Mr. Feiss

Closing by Sponsor:

02:17:23 Rep. French

EXHIBIT (tah22a09)

02:19:33 Chairman Lake closed the hearing.

ADJOURNMENT

02:20:26 Adjournment: 10:26 A.M.

Jennifer O'Loughlin, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT ([tah22aad.pdf](#))