

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 61st LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON TAXATION

Call to Order: Chairman Bob Lake, on March 30, 2009 at 10:00
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. 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: Rep. Mike Miller (R)

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 679, 3/26/2009; SB 244,
3/26/2009; SB 467, 2/26/2009

Executive Action: HB 679

HEARING ON SB 467

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:02:00 Sen. Joe Balyeat (R), SD 34, opened the hearing on
SB 244, Revise income taxes for taxpayers.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:04:19 Bob Gilbert (for Ronda Wiggers, Montana County
Treasurers Association)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:05:33 Rep. Wiseman
00:06:24 Sen Balyeat
00:07:38 Rep. Wiseman
00:07:45 Sen. Balyeat
00:08:32 Rep. Wiseman
00:09:14 Sen. Balyeat
00:09:31 Rep. Wiseman
00:09:34 Sen. Balyeat
00:10:02 Chairman Lake
00:10:42 Sen. Balyeat
00:11:04 Chairman Lake
00:11:11 Mr. Gilbert
00:11:28 Rep. Barrett
00:12:22 Sen. Balyeat
00:12:50 Rep. Barrett
00:13:27 Rep. Stahl
00:14:03 Mr. Gilbert
00:15:11 Rep. Pomnichowski
00:16:16 Mr. Gilbert
00:16:57 Rep. Pomnichowski
00:17:29 Mr. Gilbert
00:17:57 Rep. Pomnichowski
00:18:38 Mr. Gilbert

00:19:21 Rep. Pomnichowski
00:20:14 Mr. Gilbert
00:20:37 Mr. Martin
00:21:48 Chairman Lake
00:22:22 Mr. Gilbert
00:22:35 Rep. Stahl
00:24:49 Chairman Lake

Closing by Sponsor:

00:25:21 Sen. Balyeat

00:27:29 Chairman Lake closed the hearing.

HEARING ON SB 244

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:27:37 Sen. Joe Balyeat (R), SD 34, opened the hearing on
SB 244, Revise income taxes for taxpayers.
[EXHIBIT \(tah70a01\)](#)

Proponents' Testimony:

00:35:08 Holly Franz, Montana Society of CPAs
[EXHIBIT \(tah70a02\)](#)
00:41:19 Don Hoffman, Montana Taxpayers Association

Opponents' Testimony:

00:41:45 David Ewer, Budget Director, Governor's Office

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:44:24 Rep. Butcher
00:45:00 Sen. Balyeat
00:46:09 Rep. McAlpin
00:46:23 Sen. Balyeat
00:47:17 Rep. McAlpin
00:47:23 Ms. Franz
00:47:36 Rep. McAlpin

Closing by Sponsor:

00:47:56 Sen. Balyeat

00:54:36 Chairman Lake closed the hearing.

00:54:53 Chairman Lake

HEARING ON HB 679

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:55:20 Rep. Wayne Stahl (R), HD 35, opened the hearing on HB 679, Eliminate defined benefit pensions; defined contribution as default.

Proponents' Testimony: None

Opponents' Testimony:

00:57:40 Roxanne Minnehan, Executive Director, Montana Public Employees Retirement Board

01:04:02 David Senn, Executive Director, Teachers Retirement System

01:13:29 Tom Schneider, Montana Public Employees Association

01:15:22 Kurt Bushnell, Montana State Firefighters Association

01:15:54 Tom Bilodeau, Research Director, MEA-MFT

EXHIBIT (tah70a03)

01:24:15 David Ewer, Budget Director, Governor's Office

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:26:44 Rep. Butcher

01:27:41 Rep. Stahl

01:29:18 Rep. Butcher

01:29:54 Rep. Stahl

01:30:20 Rep. Butcher

01:30:37 Rep. Stahl

01:31:02 Rep. Barrett

01:31:35 Mr. Senn

01:31:47 Rep. Barrett

01:32:05 Rep. McAlpin

01:32:20 Mr. Senn

01:32:50 Rep. Hamilton, Rep. Jopek, Rep. Pomnichowski, Rep. Sonju, and Rep. Wiseman left the room.

Closing by Sponsor:

01:33:07 Rep. Stahl

01:36:11 Chairman Lake closed the hearing.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 679

01:36:37 **Motion:** Rep. Stahl moved that **HB 679 DO PASS.**

Discussion:

01:36:43 Rep. Cohenour

01:37:26 **Substitute Motion/Vote:** Rep. Grinde moved that **HB 679 BE TABLED.** Motion passed 10-9 by roll call vote with Rep. Blasdel, Rep. Butcher, Rep. Hoven, Rep. Lake, Rep. Randall, Rep. Sonju, Rep. Stahl, Rep. Taylor, and Rep. Vincent voting no. Rep. Hamilton, Rep. Jopek, Rep. Pomnichowski, Rep. Sonju, Rep. Wiseman voted by proxy.

ADJOURNMENT

01:40:21 Adjournment: 11:40 A.M.

Jennifer O'Loughlin, Secretary

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Additional Exhibits:

EXHIBIT (**tah70a04**)

Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT (**tah70aad.pdf**)