

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 61st LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON TAXATION

Call to Order: Vice Chairman Taylor Brown, on March 18, 2009 at
10:00 A.M., in Room 405 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Jeff Essmann, Chairman (R)
Sen. Taylor Brown, Vice Chairman (R)
Sen. Jerry W. Black (R)
Sen. Gary Branae (D)
Sen. Ron Erickson (D)
Sen. Kelly Gebhardt (R)
Sen. Kim Gillan (D)
Sen. Bradley Hamlett (D)
Sen. Christine Kaufmann (D)
Sen. Bruce Tutvedt (R)

Members Excused: Sen. Bob Story Jr. (R)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Lee Heiman, 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 506, 3/11/2009

Executive Action: None

HEARING ON SB 506

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:01:04 Sen. Jeff Essmann (R), SD 28, opened the hearing on
SB 506, Uniform local option tourism tax.

EXHIBIT (tas60a01)

Proponents' Testimony:

00:13:40 Jack Johnson, retired public school teacher, Billings,
also Immediate-Past Chairman, Yellowstone County on
Aging
00:18:55 Alec Hansen, League of Cities and Towns
00:25:08 Greg Kohn, Billings resident
00:28:57 Bruce MacIntyre, representing Billings Chamber of
Commerce
00:31:29 David Smith, President & C.E.O., Bozeman Chamber of
Commerce
00:34:43 Tim Burton, City Manager, Helena
00:36:52 Steve Arveschoug, representing Yellowstone County and
Big Sky Economic Development Corporation
00:39:51 Ed Meece, City Manager, Livingston
00:42:30 Bob Gilbert, representing City of Glendive
00:43:05 Kaaren Jacobson, Mayor, Bozeman, also speaking for
Bozeman City Commissioners
00:45:41 Glenn Oppel, representing Montana Association of
Realtors (MAR)
00:47:40 Tina Volek, City Administrator, Billings
00:50:34 Bill Beecher, Great Falls City Commissioner
00:51:27 Gordon Morris, representing Lewis & Clark County
Commissioners
00:52:11 Bob Rice, Mayor, City of Havre
00:52:32 Jani McCall, representing City of Billings
00:54:08 John Engen, Mayor, Missoula
00:54:55 Vince Ruegamer, Billings City Council member
00:56:30 Mona Jamison, representing Big Sky Resort Area District
00:59:28 Greg Doyon, City Manager, Great Falls
00:59:55 Jay Skoog, representing American Council of Engineering
Companies of Montana (ACEC)
01:00:19 Larry J. Bonderud, Mayor, City of Shelby
01:00:33 Mike McGinley, representing Montana Association of
Counties (MACo)
01:00:56 John Ostlund, Yellowstone County Commissioner

Opponents' Testimony:

01:01:24 Robert Ward, Vice President, Enterprise Rent-A-Car,
Helena

01:03:12 Mary Whittinghill, Montana Taxpayers Association (MTA)

EXHIBIT (tas60a02)

01:10:55 Jeff Taylor, representing Dollar Rent-A-Car, Kalispell,
Missoula and Great Falls

01:12:42 Nancy Schlepp, representing Montana Farm Bureau
Federation (MFBF)

EXHIBIT (tas60a03)

01:18:41 Mark Staples, representing Montana Tavern Association
(MTA)

01:24:05 Jean Johnson, representing Montana Outfitters and
Guides Association

EXHIBIT (tas60a04)

01:27:46 Brad Griffin, representing Montana Restaurant
Association

01:30:56 Neil Peterson, representing Gaming Industry Association
of Montana

01:31:40 Kevin Nelson, Billings resident

01:34:57 Greg Van Horssen, representing State Farm Insurance
Companies, also speaking for Dwight Easton, Farmers
Insurance Group of Companies, and Jacqueline Lenmark,
American Insurance Association

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:36:58 Sen. Gillan

01:37:32 Sen. Essmann (Sponsor)

01:40:20 Sen. Tutvedt

01:41:31 Mary Whittinghill, MTA

01:43:09 Sen. Erickson

01:44:29 Sen. Essmann

01:45:38 Sen. Gebhardt

01:46:20 Sen. Essmann

01:46:56 Sen. Kaufmann

01:47:20 Sen. Essmann

01:49:11 Sen. Black

01:49:37 Sen. Essmann

01:55:45 Sen. Hamlett

01:56:22 Mark Staples, MTA

01:58:01 Sen. Black

01:59:13 Sen. Essmann

01:59:54 Sen. Hamlett

02:00:07 Robert Ward, Helena

02:00:41 Sen. Hamlett

Questions from Committee Members and Responses: (Con't)

02:01:02 Sen. Essmann
02:02:46 Sen. Black
02:03:31 Robert Ward
02:03:42 Vice Chair Brown
02:04:15 Nancy Schlepp, MFBF

Closing by Sponsor:

02:05:48 Sen. Essmann

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 12:15 P.M.

Debra Polhemus, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT ([tas60aad.pdf](#))