

MINUTES

**MONTANA SENATE
61st LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE ON TAXATION

Call to Order: Chairman Jeff Essmann, on April 7, 2009 at
8:00 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: HB 658, 4/1/2009; SJ 37, 4/3/2009

Executive Action: NONE

00:00:11 Vice Chair Brown took the position as Chairman.

HEARING ON SJ 37

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:00:28 Sen. Jeff Essmann (R), SD 28, opened the hearing on SJ 37, Resolution to study income tax filing by married taxpayers.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:01:34 Holly Franz, representing Montana Society of CPA's
00:02:34 Mary Whittinghill, Montana Taxpayers Association

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:04:05 Sen. Gillan

Closing by Sponsor:

00:05:21 Sen. Essmann

00:06:02 Sen. Essmann returned to position as Chairman.

HEARING ON HB 658

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:06:12 Rep. Mike Jopek (D), HD 4, opened the hearing on HB 658, Mitigate reappraisal.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:51:20 Rep. Brian Hoven, HD 24
00:52:47 Ronald Buentemeier, RHB Resource Management, Columbia Falls

EXHIBIT (tas76a01)

00:54:16 Joe Roberts, representing Montana Association of Realtors (MAR)

EXHIBIT (tas76a02)

EXHIBIT (tas76a03)

Exhibits #2 and #3 prepared by Department of Revenue and circulated at this time

Proponents' Testimony: (Con't)

01:06:44 Former State Senator Chase Hibbard, speaking for self
as a Montana rancher

01:12:39 Nancy Schlepp, representing Montana Farm Bureau
Federation (MFBF)

01:13:49 Cory Swanson, speaking for Plum Creek Timber Company

01:15:25 Ronda Wiggers, representing Montana County Treasurers
Association (MCTA)

01:16:32 Mary Whittinghill, Montana Taxpayers Association (MTA)

[EXHIBIT \(tas76a04\)](#)

[EXHIBIT \(tas76a05\)](#)

Opponents' Testimony:

01:22:36 Michael O'Neil, representing Montana Home Choice
Coalition

[EXHIBIT \(tas76a06\)](#)

[EXHIBIT \(tas76a07\)](#)

Written testimony submitted by Marshall D. Mahler,
Whitefish

Informational Testimony:

01:26:22 Dan Bucks, Director, Department of Revenue (DOR)

[EXHIBIT \(tas76a08\)](#)

[EXHIBIT \(tas76a09\)](#)

[EXHIBIT \(tas76a10\)](#)

Dan Bucks' testimony also references Exhibits #2
and #3.

[EXHIBIT \(tas76a11\)](#)

02:00:14 Chairman Essmann

02:00:25 Director Bucks, DOR

02:01:10 Jim Standaert, Legislative Fiscal Division (LFD)

[EXHIBIT \(tas76a12\)](#)

[EXHIBIT \(tas76a13\)](#)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

02:06:46 Sen. Tutvedt

02:07:29 Jim Standaert, LFD

02:09:20 Sen. Tutvedt

02:10:10 Dan Bucks, DOR

02:10:40 Sen. Tutvedt

02:10:52 Sen. Erickson

02:11:32 Jim Standaert

02:12:19 Sen. Gebhardt

02:13:22 Dan Bucks

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

02:19:13 Sen. Erickson
02:20:06 Rep. Jopek
02:28:16 Sen. Erickson
02:28:43 Rep. Jopek
02:28:56 Sen. Kaufmann
02:29:48 Jim Standaert
02:30:26 Sen. Kaufmann
02:30:40 Dan Bucks
02:31:25 Sen. Gillan
02:32:41 Mary Whittinghill, MTA
02:34:28 Sen. Gillan
02:35:41 Dan Bucks
02:48:03 Sen. Black
02:48:28 Rep. Jopek
02:48:36 Jim Standaert
02:49:34 Sen. Tutvedt
02:50:15 Jim Standaert
02:50:50 Sen. Tutvedt
02:51:25 Sen. Hamlett
02:51:53 Chase Hibbard
02:53:26 Chairman Essmann
02:54:19 Mary Whittinghill
02:56:22 Chairman Essmann
02:56:46 Ronda Wiggers (MCTA)
02:58:16 Chairman Essmann
02:58:45 Nancy Schlepp, MFBF
02:59:03 Chairman Essmann
02:59:16 Joe Roberts, MAR
02:59:51 Chairman Essmann
03:00:13 Rep. Hoven
03:00:51 Sen. Erickson
03:02:16 Mary Whittinghill
03:05:40 Chairman Essmann
03:06:23 Sen. Hamlett
03:07:10 Dan Bucks
03:08:43 Randy Wilke, DOR
03:09:17 Sen. Hamlett
03:09:36 Randy Wilke
03:10:03 Sen. Gebhardt
03:10:31 Randy Wilke

Closing by Sponsor:

03:10:45 Rep. Jopek

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 11:30 A.M.

Debra Polhemus, Secretary

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Additional Exhibits:

EXHIBIT (tas76a14)

Referring to SB 465 heard in committee on March 11,
2009

Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT (tas76aad.pdf)