

## MINUTES

### MONTANA SENATE 62nd LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

#### COMMITTEE ON TAXATION

**Call to Order:** Chair Bruce Tutvedt, on February 8, 2011 at 8:00 AM, in Room 405 Capitol

#### ROLL CALL

**Members Present:**

Sen. Bruce Tutvedt, Chair (R)  
Sen. Bob Lake, Vice Chair (R)  
Sen. Ron Arthun (R)  
Sen. Gary Branae (D)  
Sen. Ron Erickson (D)  
Sen. Jeff Essmann (R)  
Sen. Christine Kaufmann (D)  
Sen. Kendall Van Dyk (D)  
Sen. Chas Vincent (R)  
Sen. Art Wittich (R)

**Members Excused:**

Sen. Jim Peterson (R)  
Sen. Kim Gillan (D)

**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 261, 2/2/2011

**HEARING ON SB 261**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:00:36 Sen. Jeff Essmann (R), SD 28, opened the hearing on SB 261, Constitutional referendum to permit annual sessions.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

(Without objection from the committee, Chairman Tutvedt reopened the Proponents' Testimony for Sen. Williams, whose presence was needed in another committee.)

00:15:14 Sen. Carol Williams, SD 46

**Opponents' Testimony:**

00:06:27 Cindy Swank  
[EXHIBIT\(tas31a01\)](#)

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:10:45 Sen. Van Dyk  
00:11:29 Sen. Essmann  
  
00:11:47 Sen. Gillan arrived at committee hearing  
  
00:24:03 Sen. Van Dyk  
00:24:15 Sen. Essmann  
00:25:22 Sen. Wittich  
00:26:20 Sen. Essmann  
00:28:00 Sen. Wittich  
00:28:37 Sen. Essmann  
00:30:19 Sen. Kaufmann  
00:30:33 Sen. Essmann  
00:30:46 Sen. Kaufmann  
00:31:01 Sen. Essmann  
00:31:24 Sen. Erickson  
00:32:55 Sen. Essmann  
00:34:59 Sen. Erickson  
00:36:14 Sen. Essmann  
00:38:27 Sen. Lake  
00:40:10 Sen. Essmann  
00:42:01 Sen. Gillan  
00:42:33 Sen. Williams  
00:44:25 Sen. Erickson  
00:45:02 Sen. Williams  
00:46:21 Chairman Tutvedt

00:47:00 Sen. Williams  
00:51:25 Chairman Tutvedt  
00:51:47 Sen. Williams  
00:53:03 Chairman Tutvedt  
00:53:18 Sen. Essmann  
00:57:10 Chairman Tutvedt  
00:57:37 Sen. Essmann  
00:57:56 Chairman Tutvedt  
00:58:04 Sen. Essmann  
00:58:18 Chairman Tutvedt  
00:58:28 Lee Heiman, Legislative Services Division (LSD)  
00:59:16 Sen. Lake  
01:00:27 Sen. Essmann  
01:00:44 Chairman Tutvedt  
01:01:36 Sen. Essmann  
01:03:22 Sen. Lake  
01:04:32 Sen. Essmann  
01:05:17 Chairman Tutvedt  
01:05:39 Without objection, Terry Johnson, Senior Policy Analyst, Legislative Fiscal  
Division (LFD)  
01:07:56 Sen. Gillan  
01:08:31 Sen. Essmann  
01:08:55 Sen. Erickson  
01:09:20 Sen. Essmann  
01:11:48 Sen. Erickson  
01:12:51 Sen. Essmann  
01:14:00 Sen. Arthun  
01:14:17 Sen. Essmann  
01:16:11 Terry Johnson, LFD

**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:17:19 Sen. Essmann

**Committee Business:**

01:21:19 Chairman Tutvedt

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 9:25 A.M.

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Debra Polhemus, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT([tas31aad.pdf](#))**