

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 62nd LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON TAXATION

Call to Order: Chair Bruce Tutvedt, on April 6, 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. Kim Gillan (D)
Sen. Christine Kaufmann (D)
Sen. Art Wittich (R)

Members Excused:

Sen. Jeff Essmann (R)
Sen. Jim Peterson (R)
Sen. Kendall Van Dyk (D)
Sen. Chas Vincent (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 184, 4/1/2011; HB 444, 4/1/2011; SJ 23, 4/1/2011

Executive Action: SJ 23 ~ Do Pass As Amended
HB 585 ~ Do Concur
HB 444 ~ Do Concur

HEARING ON HB 184**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:00:46 Rep. Cary Smith (R), HD 55, opened the hearing on HB 184, Healthcare tax credits for individuals and out-of-pocket expenses.

EXHIBIT(tas77a01)

Proponents' Testimony:

Rep. Smith reported that Frank Cote, representing Blue Cross Blue Shield of Montana, was a proponent of the bill, but Mr. Cote was in another committee hearing.

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:03:01 Sen. Gillan
00:03:48 Rep. Smith
00:04:40 Sen. Gillan
00:05:00 Rep. Smith
00:06:54 Sen. Kaufmann
00:07:19 Rep. Smith
00:08:48 Chairman Tutvedt
00:09:15 Rep. Smith

Closing by Sponsor:

00:09:52 Rep. Cary Smith

HEARING ON HB 444**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:10:49 Rep. Tom Burnett (R), HD 63, opened the hearing on HB 444, Create budget database website for taxpayer right to know.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:16:31 John Barrows, Executive Director, Montana Newspaper Association (MNA)
00:17:03 Sen. Essmann arrived at committee hearing

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

00:17:36 Jeff Brandt, State Information Technology Services Division (SITSD), State of Montana

[EXHIBIT\(tas77a02\)](#)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:19:10 Sen. Arthun
00:19:31 Rep. Burnett
00:22:01 Sen. Gillan
00:22:30 Rep. Burnett
00:23:23 Sen. Gillan
00:23:30 Rep. Burnett
00:24:47 Sen. Wittich
00:25:16 Rep. Burnett
00:25:45 Sen. Lake
00:26:24 Rep. Burnett
00:27:19 Chairman Tutvedt
00:27:42 John Barrows, MNA

Closing by Sponsor:

00:29:19 Rep. Tom Burnett

HEARING ON SJ 23**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:32:07 Sen. Jeff Essmann (R), SD 28, opened the hearing on SJ 23, Interim study on exemption of nonprofits from property taxes.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:39:11 Rep. Keith Regier, HD 5

[EXHIBIT\(tas77a03\)](#)

00:47:28 Harold Blattie, Executive Director, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)

Opponents' Testimony: None

Informational Testimony:

00:50:15 Mike Foster, representing Catholic Hospitals of Montana
00:54:18 Jeff Barber, representing Montana Nature Conservancy, (MNC)
00:56:12 Aimee Gromljev, representing the Billings Clinic

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:57:54 Sen. Kaufmann
00:58:22 Mike Foster, Catholic Hospitals

00:58:36 Sen. Gillan left committee meeting
00:59:11 Sen. Kaufmann
00:59:37 Rep. Regier
01:00:17 Sen. Erickson
01:00:34 Sen. Wittich
01:01:10 Sen. Essmann
01:01:48 Sen. Wittich
01:02:24 Sen. Essmann
01:03:32 Sen. Wittich
01:04:38 Jeff Barber, MNC
01:05:18 Sen. Erickson
01:06:12 Harold Blattie, MACo
01:07:47 Sen. Erickson
01:07:53 Sen. Kaufmann
01:08:05 Sen. Lake
01:08:29 Harold Blattie
01:08:48 Sen. Kaufmann
01:09:26 Sen. Essmann
01:11:17 Sen. Erickson
01:12:11 Sen. Essmann
01:13:08 Chairman Tutvedt
01:13:40 Mike Foster

Closing by Sponsor:

01:14:38 Sen. Jeff Essmann

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SJ 23

01:16:19 **Motion:** Sen. Lake moved that **SJ 23 DO PASS.**

01:16:41 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Lake moved that **SJ 23 BE AMENDED WITH A CONCEPTUAL AMENDMENT** to eliminate lines 21 and 22. Motion carried 8-0 by voice vote of those present and voting.

01:17:02 **Motion:** Sen. Lake moved that **SJ 23 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

Discussion:

01:17:12 Sen. Erickson
01:17:40 Chairman Tutvedt
01:18:05 Sen. Essmann
01:18:45 Sen. Lake
01:19:00 Sen. Kaufmann
01:19:52 Sen. Wittich
01:21:05 Sen. Kaufmann
01:22:13 Sen. Lake
01:22:53 Sen. Wittich
01:23:18 Chairman Tutvedt
01:23:40 Sen. Wittich

01:24:03 Sen. Essmann
01:24:51 Lee Heiman, Legislative Services Division (LSD)
01:25:00 Sen. Essmann
01:25:12 Chairman Tutvedt

01:25:27 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Essmann moved that **SJ 23 BE AMENDED WITH A CONCEPTUAL AMENDMENT** to eliminate sections "a" through "f" and make "g" and "h" a subsection of themselves. Motion carried 8-0 by voice vote of those present and voting.

01:26:04 **Motion:** Sen. Lake moved that **SJ 23 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

Discussion:

01:26:12 Sen. Erickson
01:26:21 Lee Heiman, LSD

01:27:38 **Vote:** Motion carried 8-0 by voice vote of those present and voting.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 585

01:28:13 **Motion:** Sen. Lake moved that **HB 585 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

01:28:23 Chairman Tutvedt
01:28:58 Sen. Kaufmann
01:29:15 Sen. Wittich
01:29:36 Sen. Lake
01:30:22 Sen. Branae
01:30:58 Sen. Erickson
01:31:21 Sen. Lake
01:32:41 Sen. Kaufmann
01:33:09 Sen. Gillan returned to committee meeting
01:33:28 Sen. Lake
01:33:51 Sen. Gillan
01:34:38 Chairman Tutvedt
01:34:44 Sen. Gillan
01:34:53 Sen. Lake
01:35:43 Sen. Wittich
01:37:18 Sen. Gillan
01:39:07 Sen. Lake
01:39:54 Sen. Essmann
01:40:14 Sen. Wittich

01:41:08 **Vote:** Motion carried 7-5 by roll call vote with Sen. Branae, Sen. Erickson, Sen. Gillan, Sen. Kaufmann and Sen. Van Dyk voting no. Sen. Peterson, Sen. Van Dyk and Sen. Vincent voted by proxy. Sen. Vincent will carry the bill.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 444

01:42:03 **Motion:** Sen. Lake moved that **HB 444 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

01:42:15 Sen. Wittich
01:42:21 Sen. Kaufmann
01:42:51 Sen. Eerickson
01:43:01 Sen. Gillan
01:45:06 Sen. Wittich
01:45:52 Sen. Lake

01:46:15 **Vote:** Motion carried 7-5 by roll call vote with Sen. Branae, Sen. Erickson, Sen. Gillan, Sen. Kaufmann and Sen. Van Dyk voting no. Sen. Peterson, Sen. Van Dyk and Sen. Vincent voted by proxy. Sen. Wittich will carry the bill.

Committee Business:

01:47:03 Sen. Wittich
01:47:52 Sen. Kaufmann
01:48:27 Chairman Tutvedt
01:48:43 Sen. Kaufmann
01:48:48 Sen. Erickson
01:48:57 Chairman Tutvedt
01:49:13 Sen. Erickson
01:49:19 Chairman Tutvedt
01:49:43 Sen. Gillan
01:50:45 Chairman Tutvedt
01:51:00 Sen. Gillan
01:51:12 Chairman Tutvedt
01:51:43 Sen. Lake
01:52:06 Chairman Tutvedt

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment:

Debra Polhemus, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([tas77aad.pdf](#))