

## MINUTES

### MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 66th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

#### COMMITTEE ON TAXATION

**Call to Order:** Chair Alan Redfield, on March 14, 2019 at 9:00 AM, in Room 152 Capitol

#### ROLL CALL

**Members Present:**

Rep. Alan Redfield, Chair (R)  
Rep. Becky Beard, Vice Chair (R)  
Rep. Zach Brown, Vice Chair (D)  
Rep. Mary Ann Dunwell (D)  
Rep. Dave Fern (D)  
Rep. John Fuller (R)  
Rep. Emma Kerr-Carpenter (D)  
Rep. Rhonda Knudsen (R)  
Rep. Marilyn Marler (D)  
Rep. Lola Sheldon-Galloway (R)  
Rep. Bridget Smith (D)  
Rep. Tom Welch (R)  
Rep. Kerry White (R)  
Rep. Daniel Zolnikov (R)

**Members Excused:** Rep. Kim Abbott (D)  
Rep. Wylie Galt (R)  
Rep. Greg Hertz (R)  
Rep. Joshua Kassmier (R)

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Chris Bushnell, Committee Secretary  
Megan Moore, Legislative Branch

**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 618, 2/23/2019; SB 111, 2/27/2019; SB 165, 2/27/2019;  
SB 207, 2/27/2019

09:01:03 Chair Redfield

### **HEARING ON HB 618**

#### **Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

09:02:20 Rep. Bill Mercer (R), HD 46, opened the hearing on HB 618, Establish a fee for statewide safety communications systems.

09:02:53 Rep. Hertz entered the meeting.

#### **Proponents' Testimony:**

09:07:41 Tim Burton, Montana League of Cities and Towns (MLCT)

09:15:23 Tom Butler, Chief, Montana Highway Patrol

[EXHIBIT\(tah52a01\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(tah52a02\)](#)

09:26:30 Rep. Hertz left the meeting.

09:27:45 Rep. White left the meeting.

09:27:53 Eric Bryson, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)

09:30:25 Marjean Penny, Gallatin County 911

09:34:28 Delila Bruno, Montana Disaster Emergency Services (DES)

09:35:41 Mike Feldman, Self

[EXHIBIT\(tah52a03\)](#)

09:37:42 Rep. White entered the meeting.

09:42:23 Kirk Robbins, Montana Highway Patrol (MHP)

09:47:16 Toni Snelling, Montana Highway Patrol (MHP)

09:52:19 Brian Gootkin, Sheriff, Gallatin County, Montana State Peace Officers Association (MSPOA)

09:53:23 Thomas Boyer, Sheriff, Valley County

09:57:43 Steve Crawford, Chief of Police, Bozeman Police Department

09:59:31 Jeff Newton, Great Falls Police Department

10:01:46 Mike Maltaverne, Bozeman Fire Department, Montana State Fire Chiefs' Association

[EXHIBIT\(tah52a04\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(tah52a05\)](#)

10:03:49 David Webster, St. Peter's Health

10:07:50 Jerry Williams, Montana Police Protective Association

10:09:24 Shelby DeMars, Montana Association of Oil, Gas and Coal Counties

#### **Opponents' Testimony:**

10:09:51 Bob Story, Montana Taxpayers Association

[EXHIBIT\(tah52a06\)](#)

10:16:48 Bridger Mahlum, Montana Chamber of Commerce (MCC)

10:19:02 Riley Johnson, National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB)

10:26:17 Paul Blair, Americans for Tax Reform

10:30:08 Orson Gold, Gold Communication Services (GCS), Missoula County, Ravalli County

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

10:33:33 Rep. Fuller  
10:33:56 Chief Butler, Montana Highway Patrol  
10:34:41 Rep. Fuller  
10:34:51 Chief Butler, Montana Highway Patrol  
10:36:01 Vice Chair Z. Brown  
10:36:38 Chief Butler, Montana Highway Patrol  
10:36:54 Rep. White  
10:38:41 Rep. Mercer  
10:39:37 Rep. White  
10:40:19 Chief Butler, Montana Highway Patrol  
10:42:46 Rep. Dunwell  
10:44:13 Rep. Mercer  
  
10:44:53 Rep. Zolnikov left the meeting.  
  
10:44:58 Rep. Dunwell  
10:45:01 Rep. Mercer  
10:45:20 Rep. Dunwell  
10:45:49 Bridger Mahlum, MCC  
10:46:29 Rep. Dunwell  
10:47:12 Rep. Mercer  
10:47:42 Rep. Welch  
10:48:45 Chief Butler, Montana Highway Patrol  
10:49:13 Rep. Welch  
10:49:29 Chief Butler, Montana Highway Patrol  
10:50:09 Rep. Welch  
10:51:06 Chief Butler, Montana Highway Patrol  
10:52:14 Rep. Marler  
10:53:20 Orson Gold, GCS, Missoula County, Ravalli County  
10:54:43 Rep. Marler  
10:54:48 Orson Gold GCS, Missoula County, Ravalli County  
10:55:01 Rep. Marler  
10:55:18 Rep. Mercer  
10:55:36 Chief Butler, Montana Highway Patrol  
10:56:15 Rep. Fern  
10:57:02 Orson Gold GCS, Missoula County, Ravalli County  
10:59:00 Vice Chair Z. Brown  
10:59:37 Chief Butler, Montana Highway Patrol  
11:00:57 Vice Chair Z. Brown  
11:01:31 Chief Butler, Montana Highway Patrol  
11:02:25 Vice Chair Z. Brown  
11:03:10 Bob Story, MTA

**Closing by Sponsor:**

11:03:25 Rep. Mercer

**HEARING ON SB 111**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

11:05:34 Sen. Mark Blasdel (R), SD 4, opened the hearing on SB 111, Extend termination date of qualified endowment tax credit.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

11:07:01 Aidan Myhre, Montana Community Foundation

[EXHIBIT\(tah52a07\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(tah52a08\)](#)

11:11:46 Mary Rutherford, Montana Community Foundation

11:13:53 Liz Moore, Montana Nonprofit Association

11:16:44 Liv Stavick, Montana Farm Bureau (MFB)

11:17:24 Bridger Mahlum, Montana Chamber of Commerce (MCC)

11:17:54 Jordan Husted, Edward Jones

11:19:09 Jessie Luther, Association of Montana Troopers, Montana Guides and Outfitters Association

11:20:13 Ed Bartlett, Billings Chamber of Commerce, Boys and Girls Clubs of Montana

11:21:06 Amy Sullivan, Montana Community Foundation

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

**Closing by Sponsor:**

11:23:11 Sen. Blasdel

**HEARING ON SB 165**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

11:24:35 Sen. Margaret (Margie) MacDonald (D), SD 26, opened the hearing on SB 165, Remove unusable mobile homes from property tax rolls.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

11:26:40 Eric Bryson, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)

11:27:37 Rocky Haralson, Montana County Treasures Association

11:28:34 Rebecca Meyers, Missoula County

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:**

11:29:26 Kory Hofland, Montana Department of Revenue (DOR)

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

11:29:49 Rep. Kerr-Carpenter  
11:30:32 Sen. MacDonald  
11:31:53 Rep. White  
11:32:48 Eric Bryson, MACo

**Closing by Sponsor:**

11:33:41 Sen. MacDonald

**HEARING ON SB 207****Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

11:34:48 Sen. Tom Jacobson (D), SD 11, opened the hearing on SB 207, Provide taxpayer election to contribute to ABLE and education savings accounts.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

11:37:00 Novelene Martin, Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services (DPHHS)  
11:37:29 Joel Peden, Montana Centers for Independent Living (MCIL)  
11:41:50 Beth Brennehan, Disability Rights of Montana

**Opponents' Testimony:** None**Informational Testimony:**

11:42:27 Lee Baerlocher, Montana Department of Revenue (DOR)

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

11:42:46 Rep. Welch  
11:43:09 Sen. Jacobson  
11:43:42 Rep. Welch  
11:43:57 Lee Baerlocher, DOR

**Closing by Sponsor:**

11:44:12 Sen. Jacobson  
  
11:44:42 Chair Redfield  
11:46:15 Rep. Fern  
11:47:13 Chair Redfield  
11:47:18 Megan Moore, Legal Services Division (LSD)  
11:48:38 Chair Redfield

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 11:48:45

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Chris Bushnell, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT**([tah52aad.pdf](#))