

## MINUTES

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

#### COMMITTEE ON TAXATION

**Call to Order:** Chair Alan Redfield, on March 21, 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. Kim Abbott (D)  
Rep. Mary Ann Dunwell (D)  
Rep. Dave Fern (D)  
Rep. John Fuller (R)  
Rep. Joshua Kassmier (R)  
Rep. Emma Kerr-Carpenter (D)  
Rep. Rhonda Knudsen (R)  
Rep. Lola Sheldon-Galloway (R)  
Rep. Bridget Smith (D)  
Rep. Tom Welch (R)  
Rep. Kerry White (R)  
Rep. Daniel Zolnikov (R)

**Members Excused:** Rep. Zach Brown, Vice Chair (D)  
Rep. Wylie Galt (R)  
Rep. Greg Hertz (R)  
Rep. Marilyn Marler (D)

**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: SB 152, 3/14/2019; SB 178, 3/11/2019; HJ 2, 3/12/2019

**HEARING ON SB 152****Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

08:01:28 Sen. Dick Barrett (D), SD 45, opened the hearing on SB 152, Repeal sunset on 6-mill university levy.

[EXHIBIT\(tah58a01\)](#)

08:09:32 Vice Chair Z. Brown and Rep. Marler entered the meeting.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

08:15:07 Clayton Christian, Montana Commissioner of Higher Education

08:16:09 Bob Nystuen, Glacier Bank

08:18:17 Kevin McRae, Montana University System

[EXHIBIT\(tah58a02\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(tah58a03\)](#)

08:18:44 Sam Forstag, Montana Associated Students (MAS)

08:20:09 Tom Livers, Director, Governor's Office of Budget and Program Planning

08:21:07 Michael Toppen, Montana Research Group

[EXHIBIT\(tah58a04\)](#)

08:22:17 Kali Cantrell, Self

08:23:13 Kelly Armington, Self

08:24:08 Madison Seigler, Self

08:24:40 Hannah Pate, Self

08:26:03 Bridger Mahlum, Montana Chamber of Commerce (MCC)

08:26:53 Rose Bender, Montana Budget and Policy Center (MBPC)

08:27:16 Brent Campbell, WGM Group

08:28:36 Webb Brown, Self

08:29:42 Ronda Wiggers, Helena Chamber of Commerce (HCC)

08:30:38 John Iverson, Montana Society of Certified Public Accountants (MSCPA)

08:30:58 Ed Bartlett, Bozeman Chamber of Commerce, Billings Chamber of Commerce

08:31:17 Liv Stavick, Montana Farm Bureau

08:31:38 Mary Moe, Self

08:33:40 Cindy Palmer, Montana Farmers Union

08:34:16 Brenna Love, Associated Students of University of Montana

08:35:06 Aidan Myhre, Kalispell Chamber of Commerce

08:35:22 Eric Feaver, Montana Federation of Public Employees (MFPE)

[EXHIBIT\(tah58a05\)](#)

08:35:43 Adam Haigh Montana American Federation of Labor-Congress of Industrial Organizations (MT AFL-CIO)

**Opponents' Testimony:**

08:36:05 David Herbst, American for Prosperity-Montana (AFP-MT)

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

08:37:55 Rep. White

08:38:41 Sam Forstag, MAS  
08:39:02 Rep. White  
08:39:39 Sam Forstag, MAS  
08:40:10 Rep. White  
08:41:12 Sam Forstag, MAS  
08:42:08 Rep. Marler  
08:42:30 Sam Forstag, MAS  
08:42:50 Rep. Marler  
08:42:59 Sam Forstag, MAS  
08:43:07 Rep. White  
08:43:36 Sam Forstag, MAS  
08:43:54 Rep. Sheldon-Galloway  
08:44:21 Commissioner Christian, Montana Higher Education  
08:46:04 Rep. Sheldon-Galloway  
08:46:19 Commissioner Christian, Montana Higher Education

**Closing by Sponsor:**

08:46:56 Sen. Barrett  
  
08:49:28 Chair Redfield  
  
08:51:36 Recessed  
08:59:49 Reconvened with Vice Chair Beard assuming the Chair.

**HEARING ON HJ 2**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

09:00:36 Rep. Alan Redfield (R), HD 59, opened the hearing on HJ 2, Revenue estimating resolution.

**Informational Testimony:**

09:01:09 Amy Carlson, Legislative Fiscal Analyst, Legislative Fiscal Division (LFD)  
[EXHIBIT\(tah58a06\)](#)

09:05:36 Stephanie Morrison, Legislative Fiscal Division (LFD)  
09:17:09 Director Sam Schaefer, Legislative Fiscal Division (LFD)  
09:22:37 Amy Carlson, Legislative Fiscal Division, (LFD)  
09:23:34 Tom Livers, Director, Office of Budget and Program Planning (OBPP)  
09:27:56 Ryan Evans, Office of Budget and Program Planning (OBPP)  
[EXHIBIT\(tah58a07\)](#)

**Proponents' Testimony:** None

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

09:40:12 Rep. White  
09:41:21 Stephanie Morrison, LFD  
09:43:28 Rep. White  
09:44:10 Stephanie Morrison, LFD

09:46:12 Rep. White  
09:47:03 Ryan Evans, OBPP  
09:48:00 Rep. White  
09:48:23 Ryan Evans, OBPP  
09:48:56 Rep. Dunwell  
09:50:18 Sam Schaefer, LFD  
  
09:50:26 Rep. White left the meeting.  
  
09:51:26 Rep. Dunwell  
09:51:50 Sam Schaefer, LFD  
09:53:04 Vice Chair Z. Brown  
09:54:17 Ryan Evans, OBPP  
09:56:10 Vice Chair Z. Brown  
09:56:45 Ryan Evans, OBPP  
09:57:31 Rep. Abbott  
09:57:58 Ryan Evans, OBPP  
09:58:04 Rep. Abbott  
09:58:13 Ryan Evans, OBPP  
09:58:34 Rep. Fern  
09:59:08 Ryan Evans, OBPP  
10:01:02 Rep. Fern  
10:01:26 Ryan Evans, OBPP  
10:02:17 Rep. Sheldon-Galloway  
10:03:09 Stephanie Morrison, LFD  
10:05:16 Rep. Sheldon-Galloway  
10:05:25 Stephanie Morrison, LFD  
10:08:33 Rep. Dunwell  
10:09:48 Director Livers, OBPP  
  
10:10:18 Rep. White entered the meeting.  
  
10:12:20 Vice Chair Brown  
10:12:51 Stephanie Morrison, LFD  
10:16:04 Vice Chair Brown  
10:16:29 Stephanie Morrison, LFD  
10:17:22 Director Livers, OBPP  
10:17:30 Vice Chair Z. Brown  
10:17:53 Director Livers, OBPP  
  
**Closing by Sponsor:**  
10:19:01 Rep. Redfield  
  
10:20:55 Vice Chair Z. Brown  
  
10:21:19 Rep. Redfield assumed the Chair.

**HEARING ON SB 178****Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

10:21:28 Sen. Tom Jacobson (D), SD 11, opened the hearing on SB 178, Exempt hemp processing equipment from taxation.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

10:25:38 Chris Christiaens, Montana Farmers Union (MFU)

10:31:20 Sam Belanger, Self

10:33:31 Ron Ostberg, Montana Farmers Union (MFU)

10:35:38 Colby Johnson, Self

10:36:35 Kim Phillips, Self

**EXHIBIT(tah58a08)**

10:38:58 Bridger Mahlum, Montana Chamber of Commerce

10:40:51 Sam Armstrong, Self

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

10:44:02 Kory Hofland, Montana Department of Revenue (DOR)

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

10:44:21 Rep. Fern

10:45:05 Sen. Tom Jacobson

10:45:41 Rep. Fern

10:46:12 Kory Hofland, DOR

10:47:10 Rep. Fuller

10:47:47 Sam Armstrong, Self

10:47:51 Rep. Fuller

10:48:39 Sam Armstrong, Self

10:49:19 Rep. Fuller

10:49:30 Sam Armstrong, Self

10:49:40 Rep. Sheldon-Galloway

10:50:35 Kim Phillips, Self

10:52:32 Rep. Sheldon-Galloway

10:53:16 Ron Ostberg, MFU

10:54:06 Vice Chair Beard

10:55:17 Chris Christiaens, MFU

10:58:56 Rep. Dunwell

10:59:35 Chris Christiaens, MFU

10:59:48 Rep. Dunwell

11:00:09 Chris Christiaens, MFU

11:00:32 Sam Belanger, Self

11:01:21 Rep. Dunwell

11:01:26 Sam Belanger, Self

11:01:56 Rep. Kerr-Carpenter

11:02:39 Kim Phillips, Self

11:04:10 Rep. Kerr-Carpenter

11:04:25 Kim Phillips, Self

11:05:11 Rep. Smith  
11:05:47 Chris Christiaens, MFU  
11:07:51 Vice Chair Brown  
11:08:08 Kim Phillips, Self  
11:08:29 Rep. Fern  
11:09:02 Chris Christiaens, MFU

**Closing by Sponsor:**

11:10:45 Sen. Tom Jacobson

11:12:42 Chair Redfield

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 11:14:57

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Chris Bushnell, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT**([tah58aad.pdf](#))