

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 66th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON TAXATION

Call to Order: Chair Alan Redfield, on April 8, 2019 at 10:00 A.M., 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. Kim Abbott (D)
Rep. Mary Ann Dunwell (D)
Rep. Dave Fern (D)
Rep. John Fuller (R)
Rep. Wylie Galt (R)
Rep. Greg Hertz (R)
Rep. Emma Kerr-Carpenter (D)
Rep. Rhonda Knudsen (R)
Rep. Bridget Smith (D)
Rep. Tom Welch (R)
Rep. Kerry White (R)

Members Excused: Rep. Joshua Kassmier (R)
Rep. Marilyn Marler (D)
Rep. Lola Sheldon-Galloway (R)
Rep. Daniel Zolnikov (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: SB 239, 4/3/2019; SB 245, 4/3/2019
Executive Action: SB 253

10:01:35 Chair Redfield

10:01:55 Rep. Marler entered the meeting.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 253

10:01:50 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Beard moved to **RECONSIDER THE MOTION TO TABLE** on **SB 253**. Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote. Rep. Kassmier, Rep. Sheldon-Galloway and Rep. Zolnikov voted by proxy.

10:03:39 Chair Redfield

HEARING ON SB 239

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

10:04:02 Sen. Jason Ellsworth (R), SD 43, opened the hearing on SB 239, Provide for moratorium on property taxes for broadband fiber and cable.

[EXHIBIT\(tah73a01\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(tah73a02\)](#)

Proponents' Testimony:

10:08:30 Geoff Feiss, Montana Telecommunications Association (MTA)

10:09:32 Rep. Kassmier entered the meeting.

10:10:38 Rep. Galt and Rep. Hertz left the meeting.

10:12:55 Mark Baker, Charter Communications

10:14:08 Melissa Shannon, Blackfoot Telecommunications

10:16:08 Cary Hegreberg, Montana Chamber of Commerce (MCC)

10:17:17 Bob Story, Montana Taxpayers Association (MTA)

10:17:33 Doran Fluckiger, Southern Montana Telephone Company

Opponents' Testimony:

10:19:49 Gene Walborn, Director, Montana Department of Revenue (DOR)

10:26:30 Rose Bender, Montana Budget and Policy Center (MBPC)

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

10:27:15 Rep. White

10:28:28 Mark Baker, Charter Communications

10:28:37 Rep. White

10:29:22 Mark Baker, Charter Communications

10:30:12 Rep. White

10:30:49 Mark Baker, Charter Communications

10:30:56 Rep. Dunwell

10:31:49 Director Walborn, DOR

10:33:29 Rep. Dunwell

10:33:46 Mark Baker, Charter Communications

10:34:23 Rep. Dunwell

10:35:02 Mark Baker, Charter Communications
10:37:18 Rep. Dunwell
10:37:34 Mark Baker, Charter Communications
10:38:15 Vice Chair Z. Brown
10:38:50 Director Walborn, DOR
10:39:37 Rep. Marler
10:40:12 Director Walborn, DOR
10:40:50 Rep. Marler
10:41:47 Director Walborn, DOR
10:42:46 Rep. Marler
10:43:12 Director Walborn, DOR
10:43:24 Rep. Fuller
10:44:08 Rose Bender, MBPC
10:44:41 Rep. Fuller
10:45:08 Rose Bender, MBPC

10:45:48 Rep. Smith left the meeting.

10:45:23 Rep. Fern
10:46:41 Mark Baker, Charter Communications
10:48:37 Rep. Fern
10:49:17 Geoff Feiss, MTA

Closing by Sponsor:

10:50:40 Sen. Ellsworth

10:52:08 Vice Chair Beard left the meeting.

HEARING ON SB 245

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

11:03:13 Sen. Mary McNally (D), SD 24, opened the hearing on SB 245, Establish commercial property assessed clean energy program.

[EXHIBIT\(tah73a03\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(tah73a04\)](#)

Proponents' Testimony:

11:13:45 Ed Gulick, High Plains Architects

[EXHIBIT\(tah73a05\)](#)

11:22:03 Ken Decker, Self

[EXHIBIT\(tah73a06\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(tah73a07\)](#)

11:24:29 Mary Fitzpatrick, Northern Plains Resource Council (NPRC)

11:28:21 Joan Kresich, Self

11:30:08 Karen Smith, Montana Credit Unions

11:31:53 SteveTurkiewicz, Montana Bankers Association (MBA)

[EXHIBIT\(tah73a08\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(tah73a09\)](#)

11:33:21 Richard Parks, Self

EXHIBIT(tah73a10)

11:34:43 Stuart Doggett, Montana Land Title Association (MLTA)

11:35:11 Aimee Grmoljez, City of Missoula, City of Bozeman

11:35:31 Teresa Schreiner, Great Falls Development Authority (GFDA)

11:36:44 Robyn Boyle, Montana Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ)

11:37:32 Cindy Palmer, Montana Farmers Union (MFU)

11:38:01 Rep. Smith entered the meeting.

Opponents' Testimony:

11:38:20 Bob Story, Montana Taxpayers Association (MTA)

Informational Testimony:

11:44:45 Adam Gill, Montana Facility Finance Authority (MFFA)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

11:46:26 Rep. Welch

11:47:41 Ed Gulick, High Plains Architects

11:48:04 Rep. Welch

11:48:24 Ed Gulick, High Plains Architects

11:48:54 Rep. Welch

11:49:21 Ed Gulick, High Plains Architects

11:50:12 Rep. Welch

11:50:30 Ed Gulick, High Plains Architects

11:51:00 Rep. Welch

11:51:44 Sen. McNally

11:52:18 Ed Gulick, High Plains Architects

11:54:02 Rep. White

11:55:59 Sen. McNally

11:57:24 Rep. White

11:58:46 Sen. McNally

11:59:47 Rep. Kerr-Carpenter

12:00:21 Adam Gill, MFFA

12:01:13 Rep. Kerr-Carpenter

12:01:55 Stuart Doggett, MLTA

12:02:41 Rep. Rhonda Knudsen

12:03:24 Adam Gill, MFFA

12:03:29 Rep. Rhonda Knudsen

12:04:25 Adam Gill, MFFA

12:04:58 Rep. Rhonda Knudsen

12:05:24 Adam Gill, MFFA

12:05:50 Rep. Fern

12:06:43 Sen. McNally

Closing by Sponsor:

12:08:18 Sen. McNally

12:11:23 Chair Redfield

4

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 12:11:39

Chris Bushnell, Secretary

cb

Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([tah73aad.pdf](#))