

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 66th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON TAXATION

Call to Order: Vice Chair Brian Hoven, on March 26, 2019 at 8:00 AM, in Room 405 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Roger Webb, Chair (R)
Sen. Dick Barrett, Vice Chair (D)
Sen. Brian Hoven, Vice Chair (R)
Sen. Mark Blasdel (R)
Sen. Jill Cohenour (D)
Sen. Bruce Gillespie (R)
Sen. Edith (Edie) McClafferty (D)
Sen. Mike Phillips (D)
Sen. JP Pomnichowski (D)
Sen. Tom Richmond (R)
Sen. Russel (Russ) Tempel (R)
Sen. Fred Thomas (R)

Members Excused: Sen. Fred Thomas (R)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Jaret Coles, Legislative Branch
Charlene Devine, 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 339, 3/22/2019; SB 342, 3/22/2019; SJ 13, 3/22/2019
Executive Action: SJ 13, Do Pass; HB 462, Remove from Table - motion failed; SB 266, Motions withdrawn.

08:00:20 Chair Hoven

HEARING ON SB 339

08:02:32 **Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

Sen. Jill Cohenour (D), SD 42, opened the hearing on SB 339, Increase tax on liquor.

Proponents' Testimony:

08:04:40 Rose Bender, Montana Budget and Policy Center
08:05:16 Shauna Helfert, Department of Revenue (DOR)
08:05:36 Erik Burke, Montana Federation of Public Employees
08:06:38 Drenda Niemann, Lewis and Clark Public Health; Association of Montana Public Health Officials; Montana Public Health Association; Montana Environmental Health Association
08:09:01 Stacey Anderson, Montana Primary Care Association
08:10:10 Zoe Barnard, Department of Public Health and Human Services
08:12:28 Sam Forstag, Montana Associated Students
08:13:16 Kimberly Gardner, Intermountain Children's Home
08:16:11 Aimee Grmoljez, Montana Behavioral Health Alliance

Opponents' Testimony:

08:16:55 Bob Miller, Liquor Store Owners of Montana (LSOM)

[EXHIBIT\(tas62a01\)](#)

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

08:23:45 Sen. Phillips
08:23:54 Sen. Cohenour
08:24:33 Sen. Phillips
08:25:42 Mr. Miller, LSOM
08:25:57 Sen. Barrett
08:27:36 Mr. Miller
08:27:56 Sen. Barrett
08:29:55 Ms. Helfert, DOR
08:30:17 Chair Hoven

08:30:40 Sen. Blasdel entered the hearing.

08:32:39 Ms. Helfert
08:32:55 Sen. Gillespie
08:33:37 Sen. Cohenour
08:33:55 Chair Hoven
08:35:00 Sen. Cohenour

Closing by Sponsor:

08:37:10 Sen Cohenour

08:37:16 Chair Hoven

HEARING ON SJ 13**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

08:37:32 Sen. Mike Cuffe (R), SD 1, opened the hearing on SJ 13, A resolution regarding international trade with Canada, Mexico.

08:38:38 Sen. Webb entered the hearing.

Proponents' Testimony:

08:43:43 John Semple, Montana Grain Growers Association (MGGA)

08:45:19 Liv Stavick, Montana Farm Bureau Federation

08:46:03 Cindy Palmer, Montana Farmers Union (MFU)

Opponents' Testimony: None**Informational Testimony:** None**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

08:49:06 Sen. Barrett

08:49:31 Ms. Palmer, MFU

08:49:51 Sen. Barrett

08:51:15 Sen. Cuffe

08:51:23 Sen. Phillips

08:54:32 Sen. Cuffe

08:55:00 Sen. Gillespie

08:55:44 Mr. Semple, MGGA

08:56:12 Sen. Gillespie

08:56:43 Ms. Palmer

08:57:02 Sen. Gillespie

Closing by Sponsor:

08:57:59 Sen. Cuffe

09:00:05 Chair Hoven

HEARING ON SB 342**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

09:00:26 Sen. David Howard (R), SD 29, opened the hearing on SB 342, Referendum to revise taxation of social security income.

Proponents' Testimony: None

Opponents' Testimony:

09:01:20 Erik Burke, Montana Federation of Public Employees (MFPE)

09:03:45 Rose Bender, Montana Budget and Policy Center

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

09:04:39 Sen. Phillips

09:05:27 Sen. Howard

09:06:06 Sen. Gillespie

09:06:39 Mr. Burke, MFPE

09:07:10 Sen. Gillespie

09:07:20 Sen. Howard

09:09:45 Sen. Cohenour

09:10:40 Sen. Howard

09:12:06 Sen. Barrett

09:12:34 Sen. Howard

09:13:11 Sen. Phillips

09:15:09 Sen. Howard

Closing by Sponsor:

09:15:26 Sen. Howard

09:15:37 Chair Hoven

09:15:37 Sen. Webb assumed the role of the Chair.

Discussion:

09:15:38 Chair Webb

09:17:07 Sen. Barrett

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 462

09:17:16 **Motion:** Sen. R. Webb moved to **RECONSIDER THE PREVIOUS ACTION ON HB 462.**

Discussion:

09:17:37 Chair Webb

09:18:26 Sen. Cohenour

09:19:14 Chair Webb

09:19:24 Sen. Phillips

09:19:48 **Substitute Motion/Vote:** Sen. Hoven made a Substitute Motion that **HB 462 BE REMOVED FROM TABLE**. Substitute Motion failed 4-7 by roll call vote with Sen. Blasdel, Sen. Hoven, Sen. Richmond and Sen. R. Webb voting aye. Sen. Thomas was excused.

Discussion:

09:21:04 Chair Webb
 09:21:15 Sen. Barrett
 09:21:31 Chair Webb
 09:21:42 Sen. Phillips
 09:22:02 Sen. Barrett
 09:22:18 Sen. Phillips
 09:22:51 Sen. Gillespie
 09:23:24 Sen. Phillips
 09:23:57 Sen. Barrett
 09:25:48 Sen. Phillips
 09:25:58 Chair Webb
 09:26:11 Sen. Hoven
 09:26:50 Sen. Barrett

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SJ 13

09:27:05 **Motion:** Sen. Hoven moved that **SJ 13 DO PASS**.

Discussion:

09:27:22 Sen. Barrett
 09:28:24 Sen. Tempel

09:29:42 **Vote:** Motion carried 7-5 by roll call vote with Sen. Barrett, Sen. Cohenour, Sen. McClafferty, Sen. Phillips and Sen. Pomnichowski voting no. Sen. Thomas voted by proxy.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 266

09:31:25 **Motion:** Sen. Blasdel moved that **SB 266 DO PASS**.

Discussion:

09:31:46 Jaret Coles, Legislative Services Division (LSD)

09:32:09 **Motion:** Sen. Blasdel moved that **SB 266 BE AMENDED**.
[EXHIBIT\(tas62a02\)](#)

Discussion:

09:32:30 Sen. Blasdel
 09:35:21 Sen. Phillips
 09:35:38 Sen. Blasdel

09:36:06 Sen. Pomnichowski
09:39:06 Mr. Coles, LSD
09:39:34 Sen. Pomnichowski
09:40:10 Sen. Barrett
09:43:57 Mr. Coles
09:44:21 Sen. Barrett
09:46:42 Chair Webb
09:46:48 Sen. Barrett
09:47:20 Sen. Phillips
09:47:29 Sen. Pomnichowski
09:49:24 Chair Webb
09:49:56 Sen. Pomnichowski
09:50:10 Mr. Coles
09:50:14 Sen. Blasdel
09:50:46 Sen. Barrett
09:52:23 Chair Webb
09:52:28 Sen. Barrett
09:53:10 Sen. Phillips
09:53:56 Sen. Barrett
09:54:22 Sen. Tempel
09:54:38 Sen. Barrett
09:55:54 Chair Webb
09:56:05 Sen. Blasdel
09:57:22 Sen. Barrett
09:58:27 Sen. Gillespie
10:01:11 Sen. Blasdel
10:01:17 Mr. Coles
10:04:19 Sen. Phillips
10:04:38 Sen. Hoven
10:06:28 Sen. Blasdel
10:06:49 Sen. Hoven
10:07:06 Sen. Barrett
10:08:43 Sen. Pomnichowski
10:09:27 Sen. Blasdel
10:09:54 Sen. Phillips
10:10:28 Sen. Barrett
10:10:35 Sen. Richmond
10:11:24 Sen. Barrett
10:12:42 Chair Webb
10:12:47 Sen. Pomnichowski

10:12:55 Without objection, Sen. Blasdel withdrew both motions.

Committee Business:

10:13:25 Chair Webb
10:14:43 Sen. Cohenour

10:14:49 Sen. Hoven
10:14:53 Sen. Phillips
10:15:37 Chair Webb
10:16:00 Sen. Cohenour
10:16:25 Chair Webb

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 10:16 AM

Charlene Devine, Secretary

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Additional Document:

Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([tas62aad.pdf](#))