

## MINUTES

### MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 67th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

#### COMMITTEE ON TAXATION

**Call to Order:** Chair Becky Beard, on March 18, 2021 at 8:00 AM, in Room 152 Capitol

#### ROLL CALL

**Members Present:**

Rep. Becky Beard, Chair (R)  
Rep. Dave Fern, Vice Chair (D)  
Rep. Tom Welch, Vice Chair (R)  
Rep. Kim Abbott (D)  
Rep. Larry Brewster (R)  
Rep. Alice Buckley (D)  
Rep. Mary Ann Dunwell (D)  
Rep. Paul Fielder (R)  
Rep. Caleb Hinkle (R)  
Rep. Scot Kerns (R)  
Rep. Marty Malone (R)  
Rep. Marilyn Marler (D)  
Rep. Braxton Mitchell (R)  
Rep. Lola Sheldon-Galloway (R)  
Rep. Mark Thane (D)

**Members Excused:**

Rep. Joshua Kassmier (R)  
Rep. Rhonda Knudsen (R)  
Rep. Jeremy Trebas (R)

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:**

Megan Moore, Legislative Branch  
Jacquie Simmons, Remote Meeting Coordinator  
Kathy Sangray, 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 629, 3/15/2021; HB 631, 3/15/2021

08:05:00 Rep. R. Knudsen joined the meeting

### **HEARING ON HB 631**

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

08:07:04 Rep. Emma Kerr-Carpenter (D), HD 49, opened the hearing on HB 631, Increase state earned income tax credit.

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

08:09:00 Heather O'Loughlin, Montana Budget and Policy Center (MBPC)

[\*\*EXHIBIT\(tah54a01\)\*\*](#)

08:11:59 SJ Howell, Montana Women Vote (MWV)

08:14:59 Lorianne Burhop, Montana Food Bank Network (MFBN)

08:16:37 Matthew Brower, Montana Catholic Conference

[\*\*EXHIBIT\(tah54a02\)\*\*](#)

08:18:54 Aaron Brock, Missoula Food Bank & Community Center

[\*\*EXHIBIT\(tah54a03\)\*\*](#)

08:19:48 Alanna Wulf, Big Sky 55+

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

#### **Informational Testimony:**

08:21:10 Lee Baerlocher, Montana Department of Revenue (DOR)

#### **Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

08:21:44 Rep. Sheldon-Galloway

08:22:37 SJ Howell, MWV

08:23:55 Rep. Sheldon-Galloway

08:24:20 Rep. Kerr-Carpenter

08:24:30 Lee Baerlocher, DOR

08:26:20 Rep. Malone

08:26:39 Lee Baerlocher, DOR

#### **Closing by Sponsor:**

08:27:44 Rep. Kerr-Carpenter

08:28:00 Rep. Abbott left the meeting

### **HEARING ON HB 629**

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

08:29:00 Rep. Dave Fern (D), HD 5, opened the hearing on HB 629, Provide for job creation tax credits.

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

08:36:23 Sen. Blasdel

08:37:16 Mark Taylor, Rocky Mountain Power; Idaho Power; Montana Chamber of Commerce; Big Sky Economic Development (BSED)

**EXHIBIT(tah54a04)**

08:39:21 Bob Story, Montana Taxpayers Association (MonTax)

08:40:19 Aidan Myhre, Kalispell Chamber of Commerce

**Opponents' Testimony:**

08:42:17 Rose Bender, Montana Budget and Policy Center (MBPC)

**Informational Testimony:**

08:43:33 Lee Baerlocher, Montana Department of Revenue (DOR)

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

08:43:54 Rep. Malone

08:44:42 Rep. Fern

08:47:37 Rep. Thane

08:48:07 Rep. Fern

08:48:29 Rep. Dunwell

08:48:53 Rep. Fern

08:49:35 Rep. Kerns

08:50:52 Rep. Fern

08:53:47 Rep. Sheldon-Galloway

08:54:17 Rep. Fern

08:57:13 Rep. Sheldon-Galloway

08:57:39 Lee Baerlocher, DOR

08:58:36 Chair Beard

08:59:23 Lee Baerlocher, DOR

09:00:08 Rep. Fielder

**Closing by Sponsor:**

09:00:30 Rep. Fern

09:02:38 Chair Beard

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 162**

09:04:08 **Motion:** Rep. Fielder moved that **HB 162 BE REMOVED FROM TABLE.**

**Discussion:**

09:04:40 Megan Moore, Legislative Services Division (LSD)

09:07:09 **Vote:** Motion carried 13-2 by voice vote with Rep. Dunwell and Rep. Marler voting no.

09:07:17 Rep. Malone

09:08:11 Megan Moore, LSD

09:08:09 **Motion:** Rep. Welch moved that **HB 162 DO PASS.**

**Discussion:**

09:08:14 Rep. Fielder  
09:08:30 Megan Moore, LSD

09:08:39 **Motion:** Rep. Fielder moved that **HB 162 BE AMENDED.**  
**EXHIBIT**(tah54a05)

**Discussion:**

09:08:55 Megan Moore, LSD  
09:09:32 Rep. Fielder  
09:10:29 Vice Chair Fern  
09:11:31 Megan Moore, LSD  
09:12:08 Rep. Malone  
09:12:30 Megan Moore, LSD  
09:13:22 Lee Baerlocher, DOR  
09:14:41 Megan Moore, LSD  
09:15:24 Brian Olsen, Department of Revenue (DOR)  
09:16:08 Rep. Sheldon-Galloway  
09:16:56 Brian Olsen, DOR

09:17:47 **Vote:** Motion carried 16-2 by roll call vote with Rep. Abbott and Rep. Buckley voting no. Rep. Abbott, Rep. Kassmier and Rep. Trebas voted by proxy.

09:19:07 **Motion:** Rep. Fielder moved to postpone action on HB 162 pending a fiscal note.

**Discussion:**

09:19:17 Chair Beard  
09:20:03 Vice Chair Welch

09:20:03 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Rep. Abbott, Rep. Kassmier and Rep. Trebas voted by proxy.

09:20:51 Chair Beard  
09:21:05 Rep. Fielder  
09:21:33 Chair Beard  
09:21:35 Megan Moore, LSD  
09:21:53 Chair Beard  
09:22:21 Rep. Sheldon-Galloway  
09:22:36 Chair Beard

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 09:22:50

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Kathy Sangray, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT**([tah54aad.pdf](#))