

## MINUTES

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

#### COMMITTEE ON TAXATION

**Call to Order:** Chair Becky Beard, on March 26, 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. Rhonda Knudsen (R)  
Rep. Marty Malone (R)  
Rep. Lola Sheldon-Galloway (R)  
Rep. Mark Thane (D)  
Rep. Jeremy Trebas (R)

**Members Excused:**

Rep. Joshua Kassmier (R)  
Rep. Marilyn Marler (D)  
Rep. Braxton Mitchell (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: SB 355, 3/17/2021  
Executive Action on: HB 650; HB 654; HJ 2, HB 372

**HEARING ON SB 355****Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

08:05:14 Sen. Mike Lang (R), SD 17, opened the hearing on SB 355, Revise payments related to state school trust lands.

[EXHIBIT\(tah60a01\)](#)

08:10:00 Rep. Marler joined the meeting

**Proponents' Testimony:**

08:10:09 Rep. Jeff Welborn

08:14:18 Jason Rittal, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)

[EXHIBIT\(tah60a02\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(tah60a03\)](#)

08:21:51 Rep. Kassmier joined the meeting

08:25:31 Tammi Fladager, self

[EXHIBIT\(tah60a04\)](#)

08:29:40 Commissioner Mikel P. Lund, Daniels County

[EXHIBIT\(tah60a05\)](#)

08:35:13 John Brenden, self

08:40:02 Commissioner Lee Humbert, Daniels County

[EXHIBIT\(tah60a06\)](#)

08:43:24 Matt Stentoft, Daniels County

08:44:39 Leroy Nelson, Daniels County

**Opponents' Testimony:**

08:46:34 Stuart Doggett, Montana Lodging and Hospitality Association (MLHA)

08:51:37 Stephen C. Wahrlich, Best Western Plus ClockTower; Stella's Bakery

[EXHIBIT\(tah60a07\)](#)

08:55:09 Matt Sease, Hampton Inn & Suites, Whitefish

08:57:37 Ronda Wiggers, Helena Chamber of Commerce

08:59:53 Shelli Mann, Boothill Inn, Billings

09:01:02 Rep. Marler left the meeting.

09:01:4 Drew Geiger, Montana Car Rental Association

09:02:57 Tina Wisner, Montana Lodging and Hospitality Association (MLHA)

09:04:35 Leslie Messer, Richland Economic Development Corporation (REDC)

09:07:43 Diane Medler, Kalispell Convention & Visitor Bureau

09:10:19 Jane Weber, self

09:14:02 Katie Grice, Big Sky Resort

09:17:41 Scott Lettre, Great Falls Convention & Visitors Bureau

[EXHIBIT\(tah60a08\)](#)

09:20:14 Sandra Thares, O'Hair Motor Inn

[EXHIBIT\(tah60a09\)](#)

09:21:53 Sheila Rice, self  
09:22:39 Daniel Brooks, Billings Chamber of Commerce

**EXHIBIT(tah60a10)**

09:23:28 Rep. Abbott left the meeting  
09:24:35 Racene Friede, Tourism Matters to Montana; Glacier Country Regional Tourism  
09:28:42 Dale Galland

**EXHIBIT(tah60a11)**

09:31:15 Eva Grimes, Visit Southeast Montana Carter; Carter County Chamber of  
Commerce

09:33:30 Kathleen Kaul, Murray Hotel, Livingston

**EXHIBIT(tah60a12)**

09:35:44 Bryce Baker, My Place Hotels

09:39:17 Staci Nugent

**EXHIBIT(tah60a13)**

09:40:28 Kris King, Livingston Convention Visitors Bureau

**EXHIBIT(tah60a14)**

09:41:44 Scott Shull, Days Inn Great Falls

09:43:40 Alex Tyson, Visit Billings

**EXHIBIT(tah60a15)**

09:47:51 Brenda Maas, Visit Southeast Montana

**EXHIBIT(tah60a16)**

09:50:29 Warren H Kottke Jr, Great Falls Turf Club

**Informational Testimony:**

09:52:00 Director Scott Osterman, Montana Department of Commerce (COM)

09:52:21 Elijah Allen, Montana Heritage Commission (MHC)

09:52:49 Jennifer Pelej, Montana Department of Commerce (COM)

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

09:53:22 Rep. Kerns

09:54:26 Sen. Lang

09:57:30 Jason Rittal, MACo

10:00:20 Rep. R. Knudsen

10:00:55 Jason Rittal, MACo

10:02:30 Rep. Malone

10:03:02 Director Scott Osterman, COM

10:03:29 Jennifer Pelej, COM

10:07:39 Rep. Brewster

10:08:01 Sen. Lang

10:09:56 Rep. Dunwell

10:10:37 Director Scott Osterman, COM

10:12:35 Rep. Trebas

10:13:18 Jason Rittal, MACo

10:14:06 Vice Chair Fern  
10:15:15 Jason Rittal, MACo  
10:16:14 Vice Chair Fern  
10:16:27 Stuart Doggett, MLHA  
10:18:37 Rep. R. Knudsen  
10:19:28 Commissioner Mikal Lund  
10:21:28 Rep. Kerns  
10:23:04 Commissioner Mikal Lund

**Closing by Sponsor:**

10:23:34 Sen. Lang  
  
10:27:05 Recessed  
10:58:50 Reconvened  
  
10:59:31 Vice Chair Fern

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 650**

11:00:01 **Motion:** Rep. Welch moved that **HB 650 DO PASS.**

**Discussion:**

11:00:23 Megan Moore, Legislative Services Division (LSD)  
11:01:37 Vice Chair Fern  
11:01:43 Megan Moore, LSD  
  
11:01:58 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Fern moved that **HB 650 BE AMENDED.** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Rep. Marler and Rep. Mitchell voted by proxy.  
  
11:03:18 **Motion:** Rep. Welch moved that **HB 650 DO PASS AS AMENDED.**

**Discussion:**

11:03:23 Vice Chair Fern  
11:03:56 Rep. Sheldon-Galloway  
11:04:30 Rep. Dunwell  
11:04:46 Rep. Thane  
  
11:06:04 **Vote:** Motion failed 8-10 by roll call vote with Rep. Abbott, Rep. Buckley, Rep. Dunwell, Rep. Fern, Rep. Malone, Rep. Marler, Rep. Thane and Rep. Trebas voting aye. Rep. Marler and Rep. Mitchell voted by proxy.  
  
11:07:37 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Welch moved that **HB 650 BE TABLED.** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Rep. Marler and Rep. Mitchell voted by proxy.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 654**

11:08:23 **Motion:** Rep. Welch moved that **HB 654 DO PASS.**

**Discussion:**

11:08:27 Megan Moore, LSD

11:08:45 **Vote:** Motion failed 5-13 by roll call vote with Rep. Abbott, Rep. Buckley, Rep. Dunwell, Rep. Marler and Rep. Trebas voting aye. Rep. Marler and Rep. Mitchell voted by proxy.

11:10:09 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Welch moved that **HB 654 BE TABLED**. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Rep. Marler and Rep. Mitchell voted by proxy.

### **EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HJ 2**

11:10:46 **Motion:** Rep. Welch moved that **HJ 2 DO PASS**.

#### **Discussion:**

11:11:09 Megan Moore, LSD

11:11:24 **Motion:** Rep. Beard moved that **HJ 2 BE AMENDED**.

#### **Discussion:**

11:12:04 Megan Moore, LSD

11:13:39 Chair Beard

11:14:58 Rep. Dunwell

11:15:38 Vice Chair Fern

11:15:57 Chair Beard

11:17:38 Vice Chair Welch

11:18:13 Rep. R. Knudsen

11:18:32 Megan Moore, LSD

11:18:46 **Vote:** Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Rep. Marler and Rep. Mitchell voted by proxy.

11:19:25 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Welch moved that **HJ 2 DO PASS AS AMENDED**. Motion carried unanimously by voice vote. Rep. Marler and Rep. Mitchell voted by proxy.

11:20:20 Rep. Marler joined the meeting

### **EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 372**

11:20:24 Vice Chair Welch

11:20:39 Megan Moore, LSD

11:20:50 **Motion:** Rep. Welch moved that **HB 372 DO PASS AS AMENDED**.

#### **Discussion:**

11:21:00 Megan Moore, LSD

11:21:50 Rep. R. Knudsen

11:22:51 Rep. Kerns

11:23:44 Rep. Malone

11:23:59 Megan Moore, LSD

11:24:31 Vice Chair Fern

11:25:46 **Vote:** Motion carried 10-8 by roll call vote with Rep. Abbott, Rep. Buckley, Rep. Dunwell, Rep. Fern, Rep. Kerns, Rep. Marler, Rep. Thane and Rep. Trebas voting no. Rep. Fielder, Rep. Marler and Rep. Mitchell voted by proxy.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 288**

11:27:26 **Motion:** Rep. C. Hinkle moved that **HB 288 BE REMOVED FROM TABLE.**

**Discussion:**

11:27:55 Rep. C. Hinkle  
11:28:18 Megan Moore, LSD  
11:28:43 Chair Beard  
11:28:52 Megan Moore, LSD  
11:28:40 Chair Beard  
11:28:00 Megan Moore, LSD  
11:29:34 Rep. Trebas

11:29:53 **Vote:** Motion carried 8-6 by roll call vote with Rep. Abbott, Rep. Buckley, Rep. Dunwell, Rep. Fern, Rep. Thane and Rep. Trebas voting no.

11:31:31 Rep. C. Hinkle

11:31:44 **Motion:** Rep. Welch moved that **HB 288 DO PASS.**

11:31:51 **Substitute Motion:** Rep. C. Hinkle made a substitute motion that **HB 288 BE AMENDED.**

**Discussion:**

11:32:05 Rep. C. Hinkle  
11:32:42 Rep. Marler joined the meeting  
11:33:28 Rep. Trebas  
11:33:55 Vice Chair Fern  
11:34:15 Rep. R. Knudson

11:34:30 **Vote:** Motion failed 7-11 by roll call vote with Rep. Brewster, Rep. C. Hinkle, Rep. Kassmier, Rep. Kerns, Rep. R. Knudsen, Rep. Sheldon-Galloway and Rep. Trebas voting aye. Rep. Fielder, Rep. Malone and Rep. Mitchell voted by proxy.

11:37:05 **Motion:** Rep. Welch moved that **HB 288 DO PASS.**

**Discussion:**

11:37:18 Rep. Brewster  
11:37:53 Rep. C. Hinkle  
11:38:13 Rep. Thane  
11:38:47 Rep. R. Knudsen

11:39:00 **Vote:** Motion failed 5-13 by roll call vote with Rep. Fielder, Rep. C. Hinkle, Rep. Kerns, Rep. R. Knudsen and Rep. Sheldon-Galloway voting aye.

11:40:44 **Motion/Vote:** Rep. Welch moved that **HB 288 BE TABLED.** Motion carried unanimously by roll call vote. Rep. Fielder, Rep. Malone and Rep. Mitchell voted by proxy.

11:41:49 Vice Chair Fern

11:42:43 Chair Beard  
11:43:06 Megan Moore, LSD

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 11:44:00

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Kathy Sangray, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT**([tah60aad.pdf](#))