

## MINUTES

### MONTANA SENATE 67th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

#### COMMITTEE ON TAXATION

**Call to Order:** Vice Chair Greg Hertz, on February 24, 2021 at 9:00 A.M., in Room 405 Capitol

#### ROLL CALL

**Members Present in the Committee Room:**

Sen. Jill Cohenour, Vice Chair (D)  
Sen. Greg Hertz, Vice Chair (R)  
Sen. Brad Molnar (R)  
Sen. Shannon O'Brien (D)  
Sen. JP Pomnichowski (D)  
Sen. Walt Sales (R)  
Sen. Russel (Russ) Tempel (R)

**Members Present by Video Zoom Conference:**

Sen. Edith (Edie) McClafferty (D)  
Sen. JP Pomnichowski (D)

**Members Excused:**

Sen. Mark Blasdel (R)  
Sen. Brian Hoven, Chair (R)  
Sen. Gordon Vance (R)

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Jaret Coles, Legislative Branch  
Charlene Devine, Committee Secretary  
Karli Kusler, Remote Meeting Coordinator

**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 288, 2/22/2021; SB 293, 2/22/2021; SB 313, 2/22/2021

**HEARING ON SB 313**

09:00:06 Sen. Hertz assumed the role of the Chair.

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

09:01:06 Sen. Christopher Pope (D), SD 31, opened the hearing on SB313, Provide for local option tax: Montana Tax Fairness and Rural Revenue Initiative.

09:01:32 Sen. Molnar entered the meeting.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

09:07:49 SK Rossi, Cities of Bozeman and Missoula

[EXHIBIT\(tas39a01\)](#)

09:12:37 Cyndy Andrus, mayor, City of Bozeman

[EXHIBIT\(tas39a02\)](#)

09:15:13 Josh Slotnick, Missoula County

[EXHIBIT\(tas39a03\)](#)

09:18:44 Jeff Mihelich, City of Bozeman

09:20:42 Ed Bartlett, Bozeman Area Chamber of Commerce

[EXHIBIT\(tas39a04\)](#)

09:23:16 Gwen Jones, Missoula City Council

09:26:38 Tim Burton, Montana League of Cities and Towns

[EXHIBIT\(tas39a05\)](#)

09:30:28 John Engen, mayor, City of Missoula

**Additional Testimony Received:**

[EXHIBIT\(tas39a06\)](#)

**Opponents' Testimony:**

09:32:57 Bob Story, Montana Taxpayers Association

09:39:27 Rose Bender, Montana Budget & Policy Center

[EXHIBIT\(tas39a07\)](#)

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

09:41:36 Sen. Pomnichowski

09:48:41 Sen. Pope

09:50:16 Sen. Molnar

09:53:20 Sen. Pope

09:53:25 Sen. Sales

09:57:31 Sen. Pope

09:58:56 Sen. O'Brien

10:00:21 Jaret Coles, Legislative Services Division

10:01:12 Chair Hertz

10:01:47 Sen. Pope  
10:02:25 Sen. Tempel  
10:04:31 Sen. Pope  
10:05:26 Chair Hertz  
10:08:29 Sen. Pope  
10:08:42 Chair Hertz  
10:08:57 Sen. O'Brien  
10:09:22 Chair Hertz

**Closing by Sponsor:**

10:10:59 Sen. Pope

**HEARING ON SB 293**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

10:14:33 Sen. Christopher Pope (D), SD 31, opened the hearing on SB293, Revising property tax laws related to electric generation.

**Proponents' Testimony:** None

**Opponents' Testimony:**

10:25:26 Bob Story, Montana Taxpayers Association (MONTAX)

**Informational Testimony:**

10:31:22 Doug Roehm, Department of Revenue

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

10:31:41 Sen. Molnar  
10:35:34 Sen. Pope  
10:39:02 Jaret Coles, Legislative Services Division (LSD)  
10:39:17 Chair Hertz  
10:39:26 Sen. Pope  
10:40:38 Sen. Cohenour  
10:40:48 Mr. Coles, LSD  
10:42:24 Sen. Tempel  
10:44:03 Mr. Story, MONTAX

**Closing by Sponsor:**

10:44:53 Sen. Pope

**HEARING ON SB 288**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

10:47:39 Sen. Walt Sales (R), SD 35, opened the hearing on SB288, Revise property exemption for agricultural processing facilities.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

10:50:04 Kim Mangold, Montana Farmers Union

[EXHIBIT\(tas39a08\)](#)

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:**

10:51:33 Christy Clark, Department of Agriculture (MDA)

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

10:52:01 Sen. Pomnichowski

10:54:10 Sen. Sales

10:54:58 Sen. Tempel

10:55:40 Sen. Sales

10:56:00 Chair Hertz

10:56:33 Sen. Sales

10:56:44 Chair Hertz

10:56:55 Ms. Clark, MDA

**Closing by Sponsor:**

10:57:24 Sen. Sales

10:57:54 Chair Hertz

10:58:22 Jaret Coles, Legislative Services Division

10:59:28 Chair Hertz

**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 10:59 A.M.

---

Charlene Devine, Secretary

cd

Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT**([tas39aad.pdf](#))