

MINUTES

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 59th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON TAXATION

Call to Order: By **CHAIRMAN KARL WAITSCHIES**, on January 10, 2005
at 8:00 A.M., in Room 152 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Karl Waitschies, Chairman (R)
Rep. Gary Branae, Vice Chairman (D)
Rep. Bob Lake, Vice Chairman (R)
Rep. John Balyeat (R)
Rep. Norma Bixby (D)
Rep. Edward B. Butcher (R)
Rep. Margaret H. Campbell (D)
Rep. Jill Cohenour (D)
Rep. Tom Facey (D)
Rep. Wanda Grinde (D)
Rep. George G. Groesbeck (D)
Rep. Dennis Himmelberger (R)
Rep. Carol Lambert (R)
Rep. Dave McAlpin (D)
Rep. Holly Raser (D)
Rep. John (Jack) W. Ross (R)
Rep. Scott Sales (R)
Rep. Bill Warden (R)
Rep. Brady Wiseman (D)

Members Excused: Rep. Jim Peterson (R)

Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Jeff Martin, Legislative Branch
Debra Polhemus, 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 115, 1/6/2005
HB 38, 1/6/2005
HB 84, 1/6/2005
HB 85, 1/6/2005

Executive Action:

HEARING ON HB 115

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:00:46 REP. WALTER MCNUTT (R), HD 37, opened the hearing on HB 115, Generally revise property tax exemption laws.

[EXHIBIT \(tah06a01\)](#)

[EXHIBIT \(tah06a02\)](#)

Proponents' Testimony:

00:12:08 Evan Barrett, Director, Governor's Office of Economic Opportunity
Mary Whittinghill, President, Montana Taxpayers Association
Webb Brown, Montana Chamber of Commerce

Opponents' Testimony: None.

Informational Testimony:

00:15:06 Randy Wilke, Department of Revenue, Property Assessment Division

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:15:38 REP. WISEMAN
00:16:46 REP. BUTCHER
00:20:42 REP. COHENOUR
00:23:16 REP. ROSS
00:25:07 REP. HIMMELBERGER
00:27:00 REP. LAKE
00:28:38 REP. WARDEN
00:29:47 REP. COHENOUR

Closing by Sponsor:

00:32:01 REP. McNUTT (R), HD 37, closed the hearing on HB 115.

HEARING ON HB 38

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:35:19 **REP. WALTER MCNUTT (R), HD 37**, opened the hearing on HB 38, Limit acreage for public charity property tax exemption.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:36:50 Mary Whittinghill, Montana Taxpayers Association

Opponents' Testimony: None.

Informational Testimony:

00:37:35 Randy Wilke, Department of Revenue, Property Assessment Division

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

None.

Closing by Sponsor:

00:37:53 **REP. McNUTT (R), HD 37**, closed the hearing on **HB 38**.

Break 00:39:30

Resume 00:53:08

HEARING ON HB 84

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:53:08 **REP. CHRISTINE KAUFMANN (D), HD 81**, opened the hearing on **HB 84**, Clarify calculation of business equipment tax trigger.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:56:03 Mary Whittinghill, Montana Taxpayers Association
Dan Bucks, Director, Montana Department of Revenue

Opponents' Testimony: None.

Informational Testimony: None.

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

None.

Closing by Sponsor:

00:58:32 **REP. KAUFMANN (D), HD 81**, closed the hearing on **HB 84**.

HEARING ON HB 85

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:59:47 **REP. CHRISTINE KAUFMANN (D), HD 81**, opened the hearing on **HB 85**, Eliminate outdated reports from Department of Revenue to the legislature.

Proponents' Testimony:

01:03:11 Mary Whittinghill, Montana Taxpayers Association
Larry Finch, Department of Revenue

Opponents' Testimony: None.

Informational Testimony: None.

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:04:35 **REP. WISEMAN**

Closing by Sponsor:

01:06:09 **REP. KAUFMANN (D), HD 81**, closed the hearing on **HB 85**.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 9:15 A.M.

REP. KARL WAITSCHIES, Chairman

DEBRA POLHEMUS, Secretary

KW/DP

Additional Exhibits:

EXHIBIT ([tah06aad0.PDF](#))