

**MINUTES**

**MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
55th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

**COMMITTEE ON TAXATION**

**Call to Order:** By Chairman Chase Hibbard, on January 17, 1997,  
at 8:00 a.m., in Room 437.

**ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:**

Rep. Chase Hibbard, Chairman (R)  
Rep. Robert R. Story, Jr., Vice Chairman (Majority) (R)  
Rep. Robert R. "Bob" Ream, Vice Chairman (Minority) (D)  
Rep. Peggy Arnott (R)  
Rep. Paul Bankhead (R)  
Rep. John C. Bohlinger (R)  
Rep. Bill Carey (D)  
Rep. Alvin A. Ellis, Jr. (R)  
Rep. Marian W. Hanson (R)  
Rep. Hal Harper (D)  
Rep. Rick Jore (R)  
Rep. Scott J. Orr (R)  
Rep. Bob Raney (D)  
Rep. John "Sam" Rose (R)  
Rep. William M. "Bill" Ryan (D)  
Rep. Emily Swanson (D)  
Rep. Lila V. Taylor (R)  
Rep. Jack Wells (R)

**Members Excused:** Rep. Dan W. Harrington (D)  
Rep. Richard D. Simpkins (R)

**Members Absent:** None.

**Staff Present:** Lee Heiman, Legislative Services Division  
Donna Grace, Committee Secretary

**Committee Business Summary:**

Hearing(s) & Date(s) Posted: HB 210 (1/9/97)  
HB 158 (1/10/97)

Executive Action: HB 86 - Do Pass as Amended  
HB 39 - Table

HEARING ON HB 210Opening Statement by Sponsor:

Rep. Harriet Hayne, House District 86, explained that HB 210 would add a \$ .30 user fee to each telephone line to be used to enhance 911 service. There is an amendment to the bill. Exhibit 1. {Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 1.3.}

Proponents' Testimony:

Tony Herbert, Department of Administration, described features of the bill and also testified on behalf of the Governor's Office. {Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 5.4.}

Drew Dawson, Department of Health and Human Services, and Chairman of the 911 Advisory Council. Exhibits 2 and 3. {Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 11.3.}

W. James Kembel, City of Billings. {Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 19.0.}

Paul Spengler, Lewis and Clark County Disaster Coordinator, representing the Montana Disaster Services Association. Exhibit 4. {Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 21.4.}

Jane Jelinski, Gallatin County Commissioner, also representing the Mayor, City of Bozeman. Exhibits 5 and 6. {Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 22.7.}

Brian Crandall, Fire Chiefs' Association. {Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 25.9.}

Mike Brown, Gallatin County 911 Director. {Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 26.0.}

Steve Larson, City of Helena Fire Department and Helena Rural Fire Departments. {Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 28.0.}

Gordon Morris, Montana Association of Counties. {Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 28.3.}

Cheryl Paulino, Association of Public Safety Communicators, Chouteau County. {Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 29.0.}

Susan Bomstad, Missoula County 911 Center, Montana Chapter of Public Safety Communications. {Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 2.1.}

Jesse Gonzales, Billings 911 Center, Yellowstone County. Exhibit 7. {Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 3.9.}

Alec Hanson, Montana Association of Cities and Towns. {Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 18.7.}

Kurt Seward, Rosebud County and Montana Sheriff and Police Officers Association. {Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 19.8.}

George Anderson, Teton County Sheriff, Coroner and 911 Administrator. {Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 20.5.}

Steve Wilkins, Treasure County Sheriff. {Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 22.5.}

Jim Green, Administer, Disaster Emergency Services, Department of Military Affairs. {Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 23.0.}

Senator Dorothy Eck, representing Gallatin County. {Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 23.7.}

Barbara Ranf, U. S. West Communications. {Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 24.7.}

Troy McGee, Chief of Police, Helena, also representing the City of Helena and the Montana Police Chiefs' Association. {Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 25.5.}

Lt. Jim Thomas, Helena Police Department, and Administrator, Helena 911 Center. {Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 26.6.}

Shawn Jackson, Eagle Emergency Services, and Montana Emergency Medical Association. {Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 27.3.}

Mike Strand, Executive Vice President, Montana Independent Telecommunication Systems, representing rural telephone companies across the State of Montana. {Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 27.7.}

Phil Olson, County Commissioner, Gallatin County. {Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 2.0.}

Joan Hafer, Communications Supervisor, Rosebud County. {Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 4.5.}

Opponents' Testimony:

None.

Informational Testimony:

Bill Squires, General Counsel, Montana Telephone Association. {Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 4.7.}

Questions From Committee Members and Responses:

*{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 6.2; Comments: Questions continued on Tape 2 B.}*

Closing by Sponsor:

Rep. Hayne closed. *{Tape: 2; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 20.6.}*

HEARING ON HB 158

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

Rep. Beverly Barnhart, House District 29, stated that HB 158 would allow a tax credit for a portion of wages for employing certain persons. *{Tape: 2; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 21.0.}*

Proponents' Testimony:

Kate Cholenn, Montana Womens' Lobby. *{Tape: 2; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 24.2.}*

David Owen, Montana Chamber of Commerce. *{Tape: 2; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 25.4.}*

Melissa Case, Hotel and Restaurant Employees Union. *{Tape: 2; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 27.6.}*

Opponents' Testimony:

Michael Bentley, American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees. *{Tape: 2; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 30.0.}*

Informational Testimony:

Karlene Leonard, Department of Health and Human Services. *{Tape: 2; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 32.0.}*

Questions From Committee Members and Responses:

*{Tape: 2; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 33.1.}*

Closing by Sponsor:

Rep. Barnhart closed. *{Tape: 3; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 22.8.}*

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 86

Motion:

Rep. Harper moved that HB 86 Do Pass. {Tape: 3; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 28.7.}

Motion/Vote:

Rep. Ellis moved to amend the bill. On a voice vote, the motion passed 20 - 0. {Tape: 3; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 29.0.}

Vote:

On a voice vote House Bill 86, as amended, Do Pass, 20 - 0. {Tape: 3; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 6.9.}

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 39

Motion/Vote:

Rep. Hanson moved that HB 39 Do Pass. On a roll call vote, the motion failed, 17 - 2. {Tape: 3; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 7.6.}

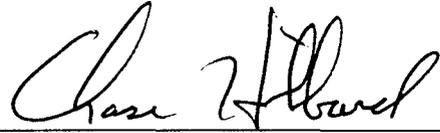
Motion/Vote:

Rep. Hanson moved to table HB 39. The motion passed 19 - 0. {Tape: 3; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 18.8.}

{Tape: 3; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 19.0; Comments: Adjourn.}

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 11:50 a.m.



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REP. CHASE HIBBARD, Chairman



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DONNA GRACE, Secretary

CH/DG