

MINUTES

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

COMMITTEE ON TAXATION

Call to Order: By Chairman Chase Hibbard, on January 30, 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. Dan W. Harrington (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. Richard D. Simpkins (R)
Rep. Emily Swanson (D)
Rep. Lila V. Taylor (R)
Rep. Jack Wells (R)

Members Excused: None.

Members Absent: None.

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

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing(s) & Date(s) Posted: HB 308 (1/27)
HB 176 (1/27)
HB 311 (1/27)

Executive Action: SB 20 - Do Pass
HB 176 - Do Pass
HB 274 - Do Pass as Amended

HEARING ON HB 308

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

Rep. Bob Pavlovich, House District 37, opening the hearing.
EXHIBIT 1 AND 2. {Tape: 1; Side: a; Approx. Time Count: 1.8.}

Proponents:

Sen. Mike Taylor, Senate District 37. {Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 4.0.}

Tom Hopgood for Criste Lee, President, Montana Beer and Wine Wholesalers Association. EXHIBIT 3. {Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 4.8.}

Tom Hopgood, Executive Secretary, Montana Beer and Wine Wholesalers Association. EXHIBIT 4. {Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 7.3.}

David Morrison, Earl's Distributing, Missoula. {Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 10.2.}

Mona Jamison, Wine Institute. {Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 13.9.}

Robert Zuconi, local beer and wine distributor. {Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 16.7.}

Opponents:

None.

Informational Witnesses:

Gary Blewett, Department of Revenue. {Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 17.4.}

Questions from Committee Members:

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 19.9; Comments: Questions continued on Tape 1B.}

Closing by Sponsor:

Rep. Pavlovich closed. {Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 37.0.}

{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 26.2.}

HEARING ON HB 176Opening Statement by Sponsor:

Rep. Scott Orr, House District 82, opened the hearing on HB 176, a bill which would allow a county levy of up to two mills for search/rescue, requiring a public vote. {Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 26.2.}

Proponents' Testimony:

Pat Clinch, Member of the Lewis and Clark County Search and Rescue. {Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 29.0.}

Kathy McGowan, Montana State Police Officers Association. {Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 30.5.}

Chuck O'Reilly, Sheriff, Lewis and Clark County. {Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 30.8.}

Opponents' Testimony:

None.

Informational Testimony:

None.

Questions From Committee Members and Responses:

{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 32.5.}

Closing by Sponsor:

Rep. Orr closed. {Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 37.0.}

HEARING ON HB 311Opening Statement by Sponsor:

Rep. Scott Orr, House District 82, opened the hearing on HB 311, a bill to tax liquefied petroleum gas at the retail level. {Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 38.3.}

Proponents' Testimony:

Chris Bowers, Northern Energy Propane, Bozeman. {Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 43.3; Comments: Testimony continued on Tape 2 A.}

Daryl South, Montana Propane, Helena. {Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 3.4.}

Martin Mingay, Amerigas. {Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 4.4.}

John O'Donnell, Montana Power Company. {Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 5.5.}

Bill Salisbury, Department of Transportation. {Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 8.0.}

Opponents' Testimony:

None.

Informational Testimony:

None.

Questions From Committee Members and Responses:

{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 10.1.}

Closing by Sponsor:

Rep. Orr closed the hearing. {Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 26.1.}

Pat McKelvey, Chairman, Tax Appeal Board, provided information to the Committee on the purpose and procedures of the Board. He also responded to questions from Committee Members. {Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 28.6; Comments: Discussion continued on Tape 2 B.}

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 20

Motion/Vote:

Rep. Simpkins moved that SB 20 be concurred in. On a voice vote, the motion passed 19 - 1, with Rep. Raney voting no. Rep. Ellis will carry the bill in the Senate. {Tape: 2; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 2.5.}

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 176

Motion/Vote:

Rep. Arnott moved that HB 176 do pass. The motion passed 15 - 5, with Reps. Story, Arnott, Ellis, Jore and Raney voting no. {Tape: 2; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 3.4.}

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 274

Motion:

Rep. Arnott moved that HB 274 do pass. {Tape: 2; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 6.2.}

Motion/Vote:

Rep. Arnott moved that amendments to the bill do pass. EXHIBIT 5. The motion passed, 17 - 3, with Reps. Harper, Raney and Ream voting no. {Tape: 2; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 8.9.}

Motion:

On a voice vote, the do pass as amended motion passed 16 - 4, with Reps. Carey, Harrington, Harper and Ream voting no. {Tape: 2; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 29.4.}

Rep. Ream commented on HJR 2 and the action which had taken place on the bill. EXHIBIT 6. {Tape: 2; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 30.0.}

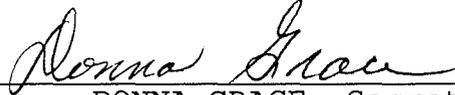
{Tape: 2; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 33.0; Comments: Adjourn.}

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 11:10



REP. CHASE HIBBARD, Chairman



DONNA GRACE, Secretary

CH/DG