

MINUTES

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

COMMITTEE ON TAXATION

Call to Order: By Chairman Chase Hibbard, on February 5, 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: SB 100 (1/28)
SB 125 (1/30)
HB 403 (2/3)

Executive Action: HB 126 - Table
HB 308 - Do Pass as Amended
SB 125 - Concur

HEARING ON SB 100

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

Sen. Tom Beck, Senate District 20, opened the hearing on SB 100, a bill which would revise the method of taxing forest land.
{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 1.2; Comments: .}

Proponents' Testimony:

Randy Pearson, Department of Revenue. {Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 3.4; Comments: .}

Don Allen, Montana Wood Products, Inc. {Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 5.9; Comments: .}

Opponents' Testimony:

None.

Informational Testimony:

None.

Questions From Committee Members and Responses:

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 9.7; Comments: .}

Closing by Sponsor:

Sen. Beck closed the hearing. {Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 37.3; Comments: .}

HEARING ON SB 125

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

Sen. Chris Christiaens, Senate District 23, presented the bill which would provide for changes in the Uniform Unclaimed Property Act. {Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 39.1; Comments: Sen. Christiaens opening statement is continued on Tape 1B.}

Proponents' Testimony:

Neil Peterson, Department of Revenue. EXHIBIT 1, 2 and 3.
{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 0.6; Comments: .}

Bob Pyfer, Montana Credit Union League. {Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 17.9; Comments: .}

Tom Hopgood, American Council of Life Insurance. {Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 18.7; Comments: .}

Opponents' Testimony:

None.

Informational Testimony:

None.

Questions From Committee Members and Responses:

{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 22.0; Comments: Questions are continued on Tape 2A.}

Closing by Sponsor:

Sen. Christiaens closed the hearing. *{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 5.0; Comments: .}*

HEARING ON HB 403

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

Rep. Emily Swanson, House District 30, opened the hearing on HB 403, a bill which would make health insurance premiums fully deductible. *{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 8.1; Comments: .}*

Proponents' Testimony:

John Youngberg, Montana Farm Bureau. *{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 10.1; Comments: .}*

Candace Torgerson, Women in Farm Economics. *{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 12.8; Comments: .}*

Riley Johnson, American Federation of Independent Business. *{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 14.5; Comments: .}*

Opponents' Testimony:

None.

Informational Testimony:

Bob Turner, Department of Revenue. *{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 15/2; Comments: .}*

Questions From Committee Members and Responses:

{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 16.0; Comments: .}

Closing by Sponsor:

Rep. Swanson closed the hearing. {Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 20.1; Comments: .}

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 126

Motion:

Rep. Ream moved that HB 126 do pass. {Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 22.0; Comments: .}

Discussion:

Amendments proposed by the Department of Revenue were discussed. EXHIBIT 4. {Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 22.4; Comments: .}

Motion/Vote:

Rep. Arnott moved the amendments do pass. The motion passed 19-0. {Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 22.4; Comments: Discussion on the bill continued on Tape 2B.}

Motion/Vote:

Rep. Story moved to table HB 126. The motion passed, 13 - 7, with Arnott, Carey, Harrington, Bohlinger, Swanson, Harper and Ream voting no. {Tape: 2; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 11.9; Comments: .}

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 308

Motion:

Rep. Bohlinger moved that HB 308 do pass. {Tape: 2; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 14.0; Comments: .}

Motion/Vote:

Rep. Simpkins moved to withdraw his motion adopting amendments during executive action on the bill which took place on January 28, and to adopt the amendments dated January 31. EXHIBIT 5. On a voice vote, the motion passed 20 - 0. {Tape: 2; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 22.1; Comments: .}

Vote:

On a roll call vote, the do pass as amended motion passed 17 - 3, with Arnott, Taylor and Raney voting no. {Tape: 2; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 28.8; Comments: .}

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 125

Motion:

Rep. Simpkins moved that SB 125 be concurred in. {Tape: 2; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 30.0; Comments: .}

Motion:

Rep. Arnott moved a conceptual amendment. Motion withdrawn. {Tape: 2; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 33.0; Comments: .}

Vote:

On a roll call vote the concurred in motion passed, 17 - 3, with Reps. Arnott, Jore and Ryan voting no. {Tape: 3; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 2.2; Comments: .}

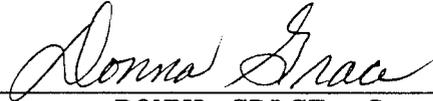
{Tape: 3; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 3.3; Comments: Adjourn.}

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 11:15 a.m.



REP. CHASE HIBBARD, Chairman



DONNA GRACE, Secretary

CH/DG