

MINUTES

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

COMMITTEE ON TAXATION

Call to Order: By Chairman Chase Hibbard, on February 7, 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 424 (2/3)
SB 57 (2/3)
HB 378 (2/3)
HB 379 (2/3)

Executive Action: HB 378 - Table
SB 26 - Concur

HEARING ON SB 57Opening Statement by Sponsor:

Sen. Mignon Waterman, Senate District 26, said the bill was introduced at the request of the Revenue Oversight Committee. The bill would revise taxation of vehicles. {Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 2.0.}

Informational Testimony:

Larry Finch, Department of Revenue. EXHIBIT 1. {Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 6.9.}

Proponents' Testimony:

Dave Galt, Department of Transportation. EXHIBIT 2. {Tape: 1; Side: a; Approx. Time Count: 14.9.}

Bob Gilbert, Montana Tow Truck Association. {Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 19.0.}

Ben Havdahl, Montana Motor Carriers Association. EXHIBIT 3. {Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 19.4.}

Patricia Cook, Lake County Treasurer. EXHIBIT 4. {Tape: 1; Side: a; Approx. Time Count: 20.6.}

Bud Schoen, Motor Vehicle Division. {Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 27.7.}

Gordon Morris, Montana Association of Counties. {Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 28.0.}

Steve Turkiewicz, Montana Auto Dealers' Association. {Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 28.5.}

Sharon Ferguson, Department of Revenue. {Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 30.3.}

Opponents' Testimony:

Dennis Burr, Montana Taxpayers' Association. {Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 30.9.}

Jerry Driscoll, private citizen. {Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 36.2.}

Questions From Committee Members and Responses:

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 37.0; Comments: Questions continued on Tape 1B.}

Closing by Sponsor:

Sen. Waterman closed the hearing. {Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 10.4.}

HEARING ON HB 424

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

Rep. Rick Jore, House District 73, opened the hearing on HB 424 which would repeal the state inheritance tax. {Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 15.1.}

Proponents' Testimony:

John Youngberg, Montana Farm Bureau. {Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 23.3.}

Opponents' Testimony:

None.

Informational Testimony:

Bob Turner, DOR. {Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 24.7.}

Questions From Committee Members and Responses:

{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 27.8; Comments: Questions continued on Tape 2A.}

Closing by Sponsor:

Rep. Jore closed the hearing. {Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: .7.}

HEARING ON HB 378

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

Rep. Bill Ryan, House District 44, presented HB 378, a bill requiring cellular phones for revenue department appraisers. EXHIBIT 5. {Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 3.6.}

Proponents' Testimony:

Mary Bryson, Director, Department of Revenue. {Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 9.9.}

Peter Fontana, Federation of Property Assessors. {Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 9.7.}

Terry Minow, Montana Federation of State Employees. {Tape: 2;
Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 14.8.}

Opponents' Testimony:

None.

Informational Testimony:

None.

Questions From Committee Members and Responses:

{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 16.5.}

Closing by Sponsor:

Rep. Ryan closed the hearing.

HEARING ON HB 379

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

Rep. Bill Ryan, House District 44, opened the hearing on HB 379. The bill would provide for continuing education for Department of Revenue appraisers. EXHIBIT 6. {Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 35/5.}

Proponents' Testimony:

Mary Bryson, Director, Department of Revenue. {Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 41.9.}

Peter Fontana, Montana Appraisers' Association. {Tape: 2; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 0.1.}

Terry Minow, Montana Federation of State Employees. EXHIBIT 7. {Tape: 2; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 3.8.}

Dallas Reed, Realtors Association. {Tape: 2; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 6.1.}

Gary Lay, Appraiser, Department of Revenue. {Tape: 2; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 11.1.}

Opponents' Testimony:

None.

Informational Testimony:

None.

Questions From Committee Members and Responses:

{Tape: 2; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 15.1.}

Closing by Sponsor:

Rep. Ryan closed.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 26

Motion/Vote:

Rep. Harper moved that SB 26 be concurred in. On a voice vote, the motion passed 18 - 0. {Tape: 2; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 38.1.}

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 417

Discussion only. Further action postponed until a fiscal note and amendment are prepared. {Tape: 2; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 41.0.}

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 424

Discussion on the bill and the contingency avoidance issue. Further consideration of HB 424 was postponed. {Tape: 3; Side: 1; Approx. Time Count: 3.3.}

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON hb 378

Motion/Vote:

Rep. Ryan moved to adopt the amendments to HB 378. The motion passed, 19 - 0. {Tape: 3; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 14.3.}

Motion:

Rep. Ryan moved that HB 378 do pass as amended. No action was taken on the motion. {Tape: 3; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 15.0.}

Motion/Vote:

Rep. Ream moved to re-refer HB 378 to the Appropriations Committee. The motion failed on a 10 - 10 roll call vote. {Tape: 3; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 27.0.}

Motion/Vote:

Rep. Story moved to table the bill. The motion passed 19 - 0. {Tape: 3; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 29.3.}

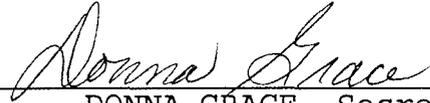
{Tape: 3; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 29.8; Comments: Adjourn.}

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 11:50 a.m.



REP. CHASE HIBBARD, Chairman



DONNA GRACE, Secretary

CH/DG