

**MINUTES**

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

**COMMITTEE ON TAXATION**

**Call to Order:** By Chairman Chase Hibbard, on March 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: HB 555 (2/17)  
SB 191 (2/17)  
SB 213 (2/17)

Executive Action: HB 555 - Do Pass  
SB 191 - Concur  
SB 213 - Concur  
HB 63 - Do Pass as Amended  
SB 151 - Concur  
HB 403 - Table

HEARING ON SB 213

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

Sen. Dale Mahlum, Senate District 35, presented a bill that would provide 100% property tax exemption for disabled veterans.

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

Proponents' Testimony:

Todd Brandoff, Disabled Veteran, Lolo. {Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 3.7.}

Roger Hagan, Officer and Employee Association of the Montana National Guard. EXHIBIT 1. {Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 6.4.}

Hal Manson, American Legion. {Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 7.0.}

Joe Brand, Legislative Chairman, VFW. {Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 9.0.}

Opponents' Testimony:

None.

Informational Testimony:

None.

Questions From Committee Members and Responses:

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 10.0.}

Closing by Sponsor:

Sen. Mahlum closed the hearing. {Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 16.1.}

HEARING ON HB 555

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

Rep. Dick Simpkins, House District 49, opened the hearing on HB 555 which would extend the alcohol production tax incentive.

EXHIBIT 2. {Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 19.8.}

Proponents' Testimony:

Tim Babcock, Former Governor of Montana. {Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 28.3.}

Shirley Ball, Farmer from Nashua, and Executive Director of EPAC, an organization that supports production and use of ethanol.

**EXHIBIT 3 AND 4.** {Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 31.0.}

Terry Pehan, Great Falls Area Chamber of Commerce. **EXHIBIT 5.**

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 35.4.}

Don Judge, AFL-CIO. {Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 40.2.}

Tom Harrison, America Agri-Tech. {Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 44.2.}

John Youngberg, Montana Farm Bureau. {Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 3.4.}

Candace Torgerson, Women Involved in Farm Economics. {Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 4.9.}

Bob Stephens, Montana Graingrowers. {Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 5.5.}

Carl Schweitzer, Montana Contractors' Association. **EXHIBIT 6.**  
{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 7.3.}

Pam Langley, Montana Grain Elevator Association. **EXHIBIT 7.**  
{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 12.8.}

Opponents' Testimony:

None.

Informational Testimony:

None.

Questions From Committee Members and Responses:

{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 13.6.}

Closing by Sponsor:

Rep. Simpkins closed the hearing. {Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 34.6.}

HEARING ON SB 191

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

Sen. Don Hargrove, Senate District 16, presented a bill which would allow a resort district to elect a board to manage its affairs. {Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 37.7.}

Proponents' Testimony:

Mona Jamison, Big Sky Area Resort District. {Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 0.1.}

Michael Richards, Chairman, Big Sky Resort Tax Board. EXHIBIT 8. {Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 7.2.}

Opponents' Testimony:

Bill Ogle, Chairperson, Big Sky Sewer District. {Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 13.3.}

Robert Stobee, Fire Chief, Big Sky. {Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 16.6.}

Judy Stang, Mineral County Commissioner. {Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 17.3.}

Ted Coffman, Madison County Commissioner. {Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 21.1.}

Bill Murdock, Gallatin County Commissioner. EXHIBIT 9. {Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 22.5.}

Informational Testimony:

None.

Questions From Committee Members and Responses:

{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 24.8.}

Closing by Sponsor:

Sen. Hargrove closed the hearing. {Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 43.2.}

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 63Motion:

Rep. Ream moved HB 63 as amended do pass. {Tape: 2; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 2.9.}

Discussion:

Amendments were approved at a prior meeting. {Tape: 2; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 4.0.}

Vote:

On a voice vote, the motion passed 19 - 1, with Rep. Jore voting no. {Tape: 2; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 25.1.}

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 151Motion:

Rep. Rose moved that SB 151 be concurred in. {Tape: 2; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 25.4.}

Discussion:

{Tape: 2; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 27.1.}

Vote:

On a voice vote SB 151 was concurred in on a vote of 18 - 2, with Reps. Orr and Jore voting no. {Tape: 2; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 2229.1.}

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 403Motion/Vote:

Rep. Simpkins moved to table HB 403. The motion passed 20 - 0. {Tape: 2; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 31.0.}

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 213Motion/Vote:

Rep. Rose moved that SB 213 be concurred in. On a voice vote the motion passed, 19 - 1, with Rep. Orr voting no. {Tape: 2; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 33.0.}

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 555Motion:

Rep. Ryan moved that HB 555 do pass. {Tape: 2; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 33.6.}

Discussion:

{Tape: 2; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 34.5; Comments: Discussion continued on Tape 3 A..}

Vote:

On a voice vote, the motion passed 17 - 3, with Reps. Orr, Wells and Jore voting no. {Tape: 3; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 12.0.}

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 191

Motion:

Rep. Ream moved that SB 191 be concurred in. {Tape: 3; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 12.5.}

Discussion:

{Tape: 3; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 12.8.}

Vote:

On a voice vote, the motion passed 15 - 5, with Reps. Orr, Arnott, Jore, Bankhead and Raney voting no. {Tape: 3; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 17.4.}

{Tape: 3; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 19.3; Comments: Adjourn.}

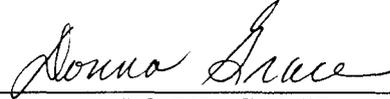
ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 11:30 a.m.



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REP. CHASE HIBBARD, Chairman



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DONNA GRACE, Secretary

CH/DG