

**MINUTES**

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

**COMMITTEE ON TAXATION**

**Call to Order:** By Chairman Chase Hibbard, on April 18, 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. 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. Rick Jore (R)  
Rep. Scott J. Orr (R)  
Rep. John "Sam" Rose (R)  
Rep. Richard D. Simpkins (R)  
Rep. Emily Swanson (D)  
Rep. Lila V. Taylor (R)

**Members Excused:**

Rep. Hal Harper (D)  
Rep. Dan W. Harrington (D)  
Rep. Bob Raney (D)  
Rep. Robert R. "Bob" Ream, Vice Chairman  
(Minority) (D)  
Rep. William M. "Bill" Ryan (D)  
Rep. Jack Wells (R)

**Members Absent:** None.

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

**Committee Business Summary:**

Hearing(s) & Date(s) Posted: None.  
Executive Action: None.

Chairman Hibbard opened the meeting with a statement that the purpose of the meeting was to work on a statement to be issued by the Committee relative to its position on the tax system.

Rep. Dick Simpkins discussed a survey he had completed based on the material developed by sub-committees in response to the request from the speaker to come up with a tax package or a statement of why it could not accomplish that at the present time. Rep. Simpkins reviewed the areas in which there was agreement. The results of the survey are tabulated in **EXHIBIT 1.** *{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 0.3.}*

The Committee discussed assumptions suggested by Rep. Simpkins. **EXHIBIT 2.** *{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 14.0.}*

The next item for discussion was Principles of Taxation (included in Exhibit 2) as recommended by the Governor's Task Force which met during the interim. The Committee was not in complete agreement on this issue on all items. *{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 28.4; Comments: Discussion of the Principles was continued on Tapes 1 B and 2 A.}*

The discussion proceeded to the individual points of agreement (outlined on page 2 of Exhibit 2). *{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 13.2; Comments: Continued on Tape 2 B.}*

Lee Heiman, Legislative Council, and Jim Standaert, Office of Budget and Program Planning, were instructed to develop a statement covering the issues discussed during the meeting for presentation to the Committee for its concurrence. *{Tape: 2; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 13.0.}*

*{Tape: 2; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 14.0; Comments: Adjourn.}*

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 9:50 a.m.



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REP. CHASE HIBBARD, Chairman



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DONNA GRACE, Secretary

CH/DG