MINUTES OF THE MEETING TAXATION COMMITTEE MONTANA STATE SENATE

March 11, 1977

The thirty-ninth meeting of the Taxation Committee was called to order on the above date in Room 415 of the State Capitol Building by Chairman Mathers at 8:05 a.m.

ROLL CALL: Roll call found all the members present.

Glen Drake, representing League of Cities and Towns was the only witness to sign the register.

CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE BILL 362: Rep. Pistoria said his bill would not change the law on taxation rates but requests additional information on the county treasurer's tax notices. He said many people had asked if there were some way they could find out how much tax they were paying to their city, school district, county, etc., and he though this method would do this job. He distributed a sample copy of such a form as is being used in Cascade County, Exh. #1. He said this notice had met with the approval of taxpayers and a number of the county treasurers, as they too said they get similar requests from taxpayers who want more information concerning their tax dollars.

There were no other witnesses and following questions from the committee, the bill was moved.

DISPOSITION: Sen. Roskie Moved HB362 Be Concurred In. The motion was carried unanimously. Note here the absence at this time of Sens. Manning, Turnage, Towe and Watt.

CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE BILL 210: Rep. Fabrega presented his bill which allows local governments to assess a charge on empty lots for storm, sewer and water usage. He said water and sewer lines were available to the lots, and services were being reserved should those lots be occupied; he therefore thought the owner should be paying a charge for this. Mr. Drake rose to give his support of the bill.

Chairman Mathers asked for other witnesses and there being none, asked for questions of the committee. A discussion followed wherein the questioned if this would affect lots in the city, on the edge of towns, commercial as well as residential. They also discussed the situation which exists in several cities where the local government does not own the water system, as in Missoula. Following their discussion, the hearing was closed.

CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE BILL 324: Rep. Harrington said his bill deals with the S.I.D.'s and gives the governing body the right to assess all of the people on a block fronting on the improved street, a proportionate share of the costs, rather than assess those with corner lots and having frontage on the improved street the full assessment cost of such improvements. There were no other witnesses other than Mr. Drake who said the League also favored this bill.

Questions by the committee followed and the hearing closed.

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CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE BILL 636: Rep. Day, Dist. 54, said his bill broadens exemptions to allow land put under sprinkler type of irrigation systems. By giving such tax exemptions he felt the state would thereby encourage landowners to improve their land, through irrigation, thus putting more land into use and improving dryland or pasture land, thus raising valuation and onsequently, tax base for the future.

There followed some discussion and the committee then moved the bill.

DISPOSITION: Sen. Turnage Moved HB636 Be Concurred In. The motion was seconded by Sen. Watt and carried unanimously. Note here the absence of Sens. Manning and Towe.

The committee again too up HB210 and Sen. Watt said he agreed with the taxation of empty lots if it would pressure some of these owners to sell them so they might be developed.

DISPOSITION: Sen. Norman Moved HB210 Be Not Concurred In. The motion failed as there was a 4-4 tie. SEE BELOW.

Then followed further discussion on the bill and Sen. Turnage pointed out that owners of lots have been taxed on their property as the streets were improved, when sewer and water lines were installed, and this would be a tax for services, commodities they were not using and he questioned the constitutionality of it. In light of this argument, Sen. Watt said he would change his vote to a Yes. The motion therefore carried by a 5-3 vote, see attached roll call vote, and by the 5-3 vote, the committee sent out HB210 with a Be Not Concurred In report.

The committee then directed their attention to some of the Senate bills still in committee, taking up SB350 first. A number of amendments had been proposed and these were distributed to the committee and explained by Mr. Tippy.

Sen. Roskie Moved the Amendments as proposed, as on committee report, attached. His motion carried.

DISPOSITION: Sen. Roskie then made the Motion that SB350, As Amended, Do Pass. The motion was carried unanimously. Note here absence of Sen. Manning, who was attending another hearing.

Next up for consideration was SB422. Sen. Towe Moved it be Tabled. There followed some discussion and Sen. Turnage made a substitute motion.

DISPOSITION: Sen. Turnage Moved that SB422 Do Not Pass. This motion carried, Sens. Towe, Healy and Watt casting "no" votes.

The committee then considered SB394. Sen. Towe Moved SB394 Do Not Pass.

DISPOSITION: Sen. Goodover made a Substitute Motion that

SB394 Be Tabled. This motion carried unanimously.

Sen. Turnage Moved SB351 Do Not Pass. The motion carried unanimosly, after a brief discussion.

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Sen. Watt Moved SB303 Be Tabled; motion carried unanimously.

Sen. Towe Moved SB167 Do Pass. They discussed the bill and decided to hold it for a time, therefore they did not vote on this motion.

Following their discussion, meeting adjourned.

WILLIAM MATHERS

CHAIRMAN

ROLL CALL

SENATE TAXATION COMMITTEE

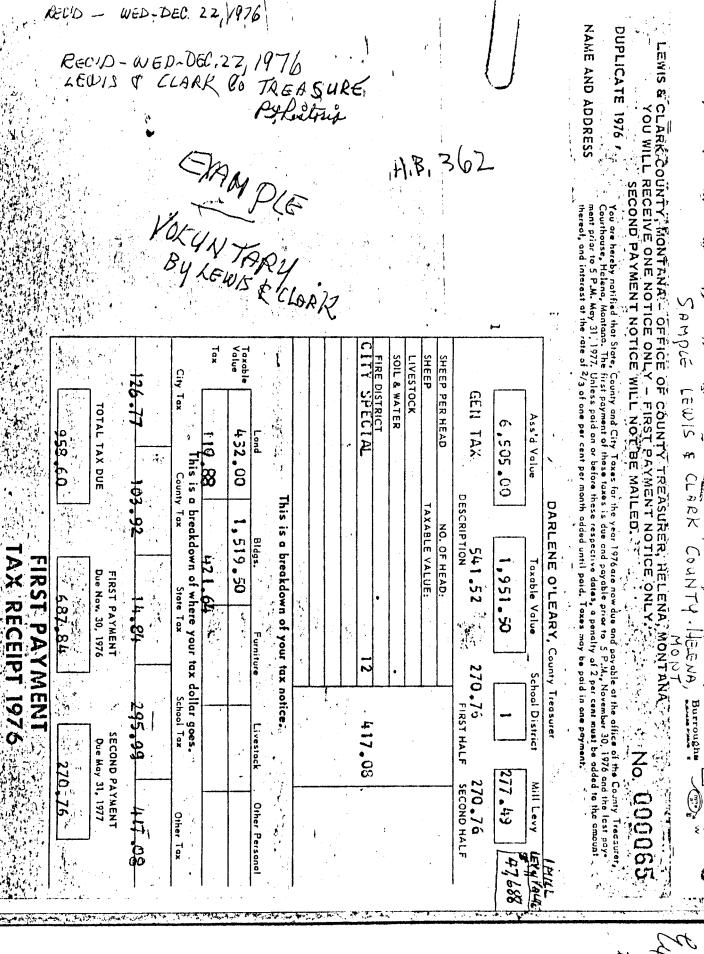
45th LEGISLATIVE SESSION - - 1977

Date 3/16/77

NAME	PRESENT	ABSENT	EXCUSED
SEN. WATT	✓		
SEN. BROWN	V		
SEN. GOODOVER	/		
SEN. HEALY	/		
SEN. MANNING	✓		
SEN. NORMAN			
SEN. ROSKIE			
SEN. TOWE			
SEN. TURNAGE	V		
CHAIRMAN MATHERS			
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SENATE TAYATION COMMITTEE House 210, 324 DATE 3/11/77 VISITORS' REGISTER 362,636 (check one) BILL # REPRESENTING SUPPORT | NAME 1 tate 1/on 210

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U	NAME Rep. Pau	l & Pistoria	Clist 39 2- Bill No. <u>F/B, 362</u> <u>Yt Falls</u> DATE <u>MAR. 11, 1977</u>
	ADDRESS 2421. CO	nteal are-1.	St Falls DATE MAR. 11, 1977
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	SUPPORT	OPPOSE	AMEND
	PLEASE LEAVE PREPAR	ED STATEMENT WITH	SECRETARY.
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FOR CLERK AND RECORDE

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SENATE COM	MITTEE_	TAXATION			
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CHAIRMA	AN MATHE	RS			
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(include enough information on motion--put with yellow copy of committee report.)

		March 11 19 77
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MR. PRESIDENT	······	
We, your committee on	TAXATION	
having had under consideration		LOUSE Bill No. 362
Respectfully report as follows: That		HOU SE Bill No. 362

BE CONCURRED IN

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WILLIAM MATIERS

Chairman.

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We, your committee on	axation	•••••	••••••			
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Respectfully report as follows: That		*************************	LOU SE	Bill No 636		

BE CONCURRED IN DOCKASKX

Chairman.

	March 11 19 77
MR. PRESIDENT	
We, your committee on	N
having had under consideration	100.53. Bill No. 210
Respectfully report as follows: That	101 SE Bill No. 210

BE NOT CONCURRED IN

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Chairman.

WILLIAM MATIERS

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PRE SIDENT	······································	
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		SENATE III No. 422
ng had under consideration		
Carlos Calleria There		SENATE Bill No. 42

DO NOT PASS

Chairman.

WILLIAM MATER E

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MR. PRESIDENT	••••		
We, your committee on	TAXATION		
having had under consideration		SENATE BILL N	351
Respectfully report as follows: That		EENATE BULN	351

DO NOT PASS

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WILLIAM HATIERE

Chairman.