MINUTES OF THE MEETING TAXATION COMMITTEE MONTANA STATE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

February 13, 1985

The twenty-fifth meeting of the Taxation Committee was called to order in room 312-1 of the capitol building at 8:07 a.m. by Chairman Gerry Devlin.

ROLL CALL: All members were present with the exception of Representative Keenan. Also present were Dave Bohyer, Researcher for the Legislative Council, and Alice Omang, secretary.

CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE BILL 693: Representative Koehnke, District 32, explained that this bill was a rewritten version of House Bill 24 and that this bill exempts certain improvements to agricultural lands from property taxation.

PROPONENTS: Representative Ellison said that he was the chairman of this subcommittee and they decided that the simplest way to do this was just to put wells and sewage systems in the exempt section and the loss is not very big.

Mons Teigen, representing the Montana Stockgrowers Association, stated that they fully support this bill and it clears up an area that has been of some concern to rural Montanans.

Lorna Frank, representing the Montana Farm Bureau Federation, gave a statement in support of this bill. See Exhibit 1.

Gregg Groepper, representing the Department of Revenue, indicated that they do not have a position on this bill one way or the other but suggested that maybe they should have a strong statement of intent to accompany this bill.

Dennis Burr, representing the Montana Taxpayers' Association, stated that they might want to consider tightening up the green belt law.

There were no further proponents.

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OPPONENTS: There were none.

QUESTIONS ON HOUSE BILL 693: Representative Zabrocki asked which three counties are they taxed in right now.

Mr. Groepper responded Lincoln, Ravali and one other.

Representative Patterson asked if the definition that the federal government uses for agriculture would solve the problem.

Mr. Groepper responded that he was not sure what the federal government uses, but for the price support program, they have to have a minimum of 40 acres.

Representative Cohen asked some questions on the fiscal note and Mr. Groepper explained the note to him.

Representative Gilbert asked if irrigation systems are being taxed at the present time.

Mr. Groepper answered that since 1979, irrigation systems have been exempt.

There were no further questions.

Representative Koehnke closed and the hearing on this bill was closed.

CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE BILL 326: Representative Hannah, District 86, explained that this proposes for the state of Montana to piggyback on what the federal government is doing in filing the state income tax. He distributed to the committee Exhibit 2 and Exhibit 3.

PROPONENTS: There were none.

OPPONENTS: Ken Morrison, representing the Department of Revenue, stated that they stand as an opponent to the bill, but they are a proponent of the idea of tax simplication. He handed out to the committee a work sheet. See Exhibit 4.

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Dennis Burr, representing the Montana Taxpayers Association, told of some of the problems they had in Alaska when they tried to do this.

Michael Hunt, representing the Montana State Firemen's Association, indicated that they are not in opposition of this bill, but would like it to be amended for retirement for the teachers, P.E.R.S. employees and the highway patrol.

There were no further opponents.

QUESTIONS ON HOUSE BILL 326: Representative Ream asked if he knew what the rate would have to be for this to be a wash.

Representative Hannah replied that he had not done the research on that.

Representative Ellison asked if this would do away with indexing.

Representative Hannah responded that it would do away with indexing, but the federal government may be putting indexing on this year.

Representative Cohen asked a question concerning how much more revenue could be produced.

Mr. Morrison answered that the income tax program produced \$170 million last year and a 1% increase would produce \$1,700,000.00.

There were no further questions.

Representative Hannah stated that they should not close the door on this kind of concept and the majority of the people would like it.

The hearing on this bill was closed.

CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE BILL 651: Representative Winslow, District 89, explained that this bill deals with a local

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government need that will become a crisis in the 1980s; and this bill provides an increase in the tax on alcohol to provide for a program of jail construction and reconstruction across the state. He continued that the tax would be increased on all liquors throughout the state and that 52 of the jails in the state presently do not meet federal standards. He informed the committee that the tax would be used for a bonding program and about \$4.4 million would be raised.

PROPONENTS: Gordon Morris, Executive Director of the Montana Association of Counties, indicated their unqualified support for this bill and that the 52 jails in Montana are in a situation of being in violation of certain constitutional requirements.

Marie McAlear, Commissioner from Madison County, said that their association ranked this as a very high priority as they have some very serious jail problems.

Dwight MacKay, County Commissioner from Yellowstone County and representing the Montana Association of Counties, said they passed a resolution unanimously in regard to the jail situation in Montana and gave testimony in support of this bill.

Tom Marvin, County Commissioner from Mineral County, stated that their jail was built about 1914 and is a brick two-story structure and the common cell block is on the second floor. He indicated that their immediate concern is to try and keep people from hurting themselves.

Bob Palmer, County Commissioner of Missoula County, gave a statement in support of this bill. He stated that since November, they have had 31 lawsuits brought by the inmates of the county jail.

Lloyd Allen, County Commissioner of Choteau County, informed the committee of the problems they had in trying to pass a bond issue to replace their 104-year-old jail.

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Robert Ziegler, County Commissioner from Dawson County, told of the problems they had in trying to build a new jail and would appreciate any help they could get from the legislature.

Tom Beck, President of the Montana Association of Counties, gave a statement in support of this bill.

H. S. Hanson, representing the Designing Project through the Montana Technical Council, offered an amendment which he felt was necessary for this bill. See Exhibit 5.

Ed Hall, representing the Montana Board of Crime Control, offered information on Montana jails. See Exhibit 6.

Chuck Reilly, Sheriff of Lewis and Clark County and President of Montana Sheriffs' and Peace Officers' Association, said that they are the people who are sued when a jail is not up to standards and offered complete support for this bill. He indicated that close to 80 or 85% of the crimes that they deal with is related to alcohol at some point and the counties are going to be forced to build jails in some fashion.

John Fitzpatrick, president of Montana International Consultants in Helena, explained why jails are so extremely expensive to build.

Jim Smith, representing the Montana Human Resource Development Association, indicated that they were happy that this bill would also establish an alcohol rehabilitation program for indigent youth and they believe that that need is acute and very real.

Steve Davis, representing the Developmental Disabilities Coalition, said that he was interested in the portion that does go to indigent youth and he indicated that it is very important to have some funding for youth to go to a treatment center to work on their problem of alcoholism.

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Greg Jackson, representing the Urban Coalition, said they wanted to be on record in support of this bill.

There were no further proponents.

OPPONENTS: Roger Tippy, representing the Montana Beer and Wine Wholesalers Association, gave a statement in opposition to this bill. See Exhibit 7.

Walter Jackl (?), a small bar owner in Butte, stated that this bill would impose a fine on the people who drink who have never been involved in a crime and never will be involved in a crime.

Steve Browning, representing Anheuser-Busch, indicated that they disagree with earmarking taxes to pay for these jails and this will fall only on the distributors. He noted that in the United States beer pays \$3 billion in taxes and that is three times higher than any other consumer product.

Phil Strope, representing the Montana Taverns' Association, said that they have reached a point in Montana where the price of liquor is high enough it is attractive to bring liquor in from other places, and he urged a do not pass.

There were no further opponents.

Representative Harp asked Mr. Morris what his priorities were considering all the bills that have been introduced that affect taxes.

Mr. Morris replied that he would respond only as far as counties are concerned and the number one concern of counties across the state of Montana would be to address the issue of full funding for the local government block grant program and the motor vehicle reimbursement portion, which is the most critical part of funding at the local level. He continued second to that would be the bill that is before them - HB 651.

Representative Zabrocki asked if they ever considered designing an underground jail.

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Mr. MacKay responded that the underground issue is really not an issue because each cell has to have so much daylight.

Representative Gilbert asked if this was not a tax against the people of Montana, as very few of the people that drink go to jail.

Representative Winslow asked if the property tax was not a tax on the people of Montana and, in fact, is a tax on those who are totally innocent.

Representative Gilbert asked if he felt that a lot of the smaller counties will get the short end on this.

Representative Winslow answered that he didn't feel that way at all as the proposals will come before the Board of Crime Control and according to the needs they will grant the money out and will require 25% matching funds from the local governments.

Representative Asay asked what is the present disposition of the fines that are collected from DUI and alcohol related crimes.

Mr. Morris replied that those fines are directed to funding the general schools in the state of Montana and none of that revenue goes to local government at this time.

Representative Sands asked why he thought it was appropriate to have the state assume the burden for building jails and why isn't a local tax more appropriate to address that problem.

Mr. Morris replied that the majority of the people that are in jail are there because of laws that are passed by the state legislature and they feel that 10% of the burden is a light burden to bear when counties have to bear 90% of the operating costs.

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Chairman Devlin noted that \$1.00 of the beer tax goes into the general fund and he asked what that was going to be used for.

Representative Winslow said that this money will be appropriated to alcohol rehabilitation.

Chairman Devlin asked about the lawsuits that were filed in Missoula County.

Mr. Palmer replied that they were all in different stages of litigation but the problem is that the court could rule that they were not in compliance with federal standards and they might tell them to build a new jail and in some states, the courts have ruled personal liability against the commissioners themselves.

There were no further questions.

Representative Winslow closed by saying that alcohol does have a major impact on the jail population and that this is a fair tax and it is not going to hurt anyone.

The hearing on this bill was closed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

DISPOSTION OF HOUSE BILL 679: Representative Gilbert said that he thought this bill was never designed to pass and it is a bad-faith bill.

Representative Harp moved that they TABLE this bill. The motion carried with Representative Patterson and Representative Switzer voting no.

DISPOSITION OF HOUSE BILL 693: Representative Asay moved DO PASS. Representative Williams commented that he thought there should be a provision somewhere that the small acreages cannot be exempt and it has to be a truly farm or agricultural operation.

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Representative Williams said that he personally thought they should sit on this until they get the green belt law over here from the Senate and then if they amended the green belt law, they wouldn't need this.

Representative Patterson indicated that the federal government does have a ruling on what they consider to be an agricultural unit, but he did not know if they based it on the size of acreage or the gross income.

Representative Koehnke made a substitute motion that they pass consideration on this bill for the day. The motion carried unanimously.

RECONSIDERATION OF HOUSE BILL 231: Representative Sands moved that they take this bill from the table.

After some discussion, a vote was taken on the motion and it failed with Representative Sands, Representative Switzer, Representative Patterson and Representative Hanson voting no.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:50 a.m.

GERRY DEVLIN, Chairman

Alice Omang, Secretary

DAILY ROLL CALL

HOUSE	TAXATION	COMMITTEE

49th LEGISLATIVE SESSION -- 1985

Date	

NAME	PRESENT	ABSENT	EXCUSED
HILL.	TREBUIL		- EMCCOLD
DEVLIN, GERRY, Chrm.	Х		
WILLIAMS, MEL, V. Chrm.	x		
ABRAMS, HUGH	X		
ASAY, TOM	X		
COHEN, BEN	X		
ELLISON, ORVAL	X	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
GILBERT, BOB	X		
HANSON, MARIAN	X		
HARRINGTON, DAN	X		
HARP, JOHN	X		
IVERSON, DENNIS	х	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	
KEENAN, NANCY		X	
KOEHNKE, FRANCIS	X		
PATTERSON, JOHN	X		
RANEY, BOB	x		
REAM, BOB	x		
SANDS, JACK	X		
SCHYE, TED	X		
SWITZER, DEAN	x		
ZABROCKI, CARL	x		
	x		

VISITORS' REGISTER

	TAXATI	ON COMMITTEE		
BILL NO.	HOUSE BILL 693	DATE February 13	3, 1985	
SPONSOR _	REPRESENTATIVE KOE	HNKE		
NAME (plea	ase print)	RESIDENCE	SUPPORT	OPPOSE
Lavina Lavina Shu Shu Shu Shu Shu Shu Shu Sh	Drank Mosher Legen H. Dogath Elly Lubinus Mus Burn	Boyeman Philipshum Montana Coid Belles Montana C		

IF YOU CARE TO WRITE COMMENTS, ASK SECRETARY FOR WITNESS STATEMENT FORM.

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

VISITORS' REGISTER

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TAXATION	COMMITTEE		,
BILL NO. HOUSE BILL 651	DATE February 1	3, 1985	
SPONSOR REPRESENTATIVE WINS	SLOW		
NAME (please print)	RESIDENCE	SUPPORT	OPPOSE
Church OR rully	mont theuffs & bady	X	
Dan Yazak	Shodan Children's Hogy?	X	
Jim Smith	HRDCS	V	-
deta Fitzpainick	Molony	-X	
DWIGHT MACKAY	MACO - Yellostuco	X	
J. Morri	MACO	×	ļ
T. MARUIN	MARO- MINERALCO	X	
Llord Z. alle_	Chocker Co	X	
1306/almen	Missoula Cu	\times	
Havad Schwante	missyla co	>	
Son Beck	facell lo	X	
Robert Biegler	Dawson Co	X	
Marie Mcallar	Madison Co	X	
Ed dall	Jefferson 10	X	
Step Velsen	Bd. F. Comme Constal	X	
HS Housey	MI Parted Chance	Muein_	
Satte A. Juhi .	BUTE		$\perp \times$
Greg Vackor	Mikan Coalina	X	
Roger Toppy	Mr Been & Wind holesalers		\perp \times
HENRY GROSSMAN IF YOU CARE TO WRITE COMMENT STEVE DAV, S	Chouteau Co, Coum, cs, ask secretary for withe	SS STATEM	ENT FOR
PLEASE LEAVE PREPARE	DISABILITIES COILITED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY	ion X	•
David R. McMillen	Richland Co. Com.	<i>X</i>	_
Steve Browning	Anheuser Rusch	,	\times

CS-33

VISITORS' REGISTER

BILL NO.	HOUSE BILL 326	DATE	February 13	3, 1985	
SPONSOR RE	PRESENTATIVE HANNA	<u>.H</u>			
NAME (pleas	e print)	RESIDENCE		SUPPORT	OPPOSE
Mothael	HUNT	AT 51. FI	REMANS ASSOC		
Donn	o Bur	mon	REMANS ASSOC		X
Jon /	omisev	DOR-No	العر		X
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IF YOU CARE TO WRITE COMMENTS, ASK SECRETARY FOR WITNESS STATEMENT FORM.

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

EVAISITI HB 693



502 South 19th

Bozeman, Montana 59715

Phone (406) 587-3153

Frank

TESTIMONY BY:	Lorna Frank	Frank
BILL # HB 693	DATE	2/13/85
SUPPORT X	0PP0S	SE.

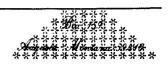
Mr. Chairman and members of the committee, for the record my name is Lorna Frank. I am representing the Montana Farm Bureau Federation.

I am speaking in support of this bill, the delegates at the 1984 Montana Farm Bureau State Convention in December passed a policy opposing any effort to tax domestic and agricultural water wells and septic systems. The Montana Farm Bureau would appreciate a do-pass recommendation on HB 693. Thank you.

1210 2 2



AGRICULTURE LEGISLATIVE WORK



NAME	Jo Brunner		COMMITTEE_	House Taxation
ADDRESS_	1496 Kodia	ak Road, Helena	DA TE	
RE PRESE	NTINGGrange,	Cattlefeeders,	Cattlemen BILI	NO. HB693
SUPPORT_	Х	OPPOSE	A	Æ ND

Mr. Chairman, members of the committee, for the record, my name is Jo Bruneer and I am testifying today for the Montana Grange, the Montana Cattlefeeders and the Montana Cattlemen, in support of HB 693.

We appreciate Representative Kothnkes perserverence inthis matter and ask that you concur with HB 693.

Thank you.

WITNESS STATEMENT

Name CAROL MOSHER	Committee On
Address Augusta Mt.	Date Feb. 13, 1975
Representing Montana Com Belles	Support
Bill No. <u>HB 693</u>	Oppose
	Amend
AFTER TESTIFYING, PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATE	EMENT WITH SECRETARY.
1. Makes taxes more equitable.	
2.	
3.	

Itemize the main argument or points of your testimony. This will assist the committee secretary with her minutes.

4.



5

Nebra (a Individual Income T(: Return

FORM 1040N for the taxable year January 1, 1983 through December 31, 1983 or other taxable year 1983 and ending PLEASE DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE First Name(s) and Initial(s) Last Name HB 326 Home Address (Number and Street, or Rural Route) 2/13/85 Hannal City, Town, or Post Office State Zip Code Public School District Data Your Social Security Numb County Name Spouse's Number, If Joint FARMERS, RANCHERS, OR FISHERMEN County of Residence School Identification Please check box if your principal source of Number income is from farming, ranching, or fishing FEDERAL FILING STATUS (see instructions and check only one) FEDERAL EXEMPTIONS (see instructions) 7 Number of exemptions on your 1983 federal return 1 Single FOOD SALES TAX CREDIT (complete if resident for more 2 Married filing joint return (even if only one had income) than six months) 3 Married filing separately. If spouse is also filing, give social security number and full name of spouse 9 10 Number of dependent children living in Nebraska Who are claimed as exemptions on your 1983 federal 10a 4 Head of household For whom your received Aid to Families with Dependent 5 Widow(er) with dependent child (year of death of spouse 19 Children (AFDC) not included on line 10a 6 TYPE OF RETURN BEING FILED (check box 1 or 2) In your custody who are claimed as exemptions on a nonresident's 1983 federal return. (1) Resident Taxpayer List nonresident's name and social security number 10c If you have Nebraska adjustments to income, such as U.S. government bond interest, attach Nebraska Schedule I. In your custody who cannot be claimed as exemptions on any 1983 federal return due to income from social (2) Nonresident or Partial-Year Resident Taxpayer 10d Attach Nebraska Schedule III. Partial-Year Residents Number of other dependents residing in Nebraska claimed enter period of residence in Nebraska from 12 Enter number of individuals qualifying for Nebraska food sales tax credit (total of lines 8 through 11) Month Month Dav Day O Check Source Used to (4) Form 6251 (1) Tax Table (2) Tax Rate Schedules (3) Schedule G Compute Federal Tax Federal adjusted gross income (line 32, Federal Form 1040; or line 14, Federal Form 1040A; or line 3, 13 Federal Form 1040EZ). Federal taxable income (line 37, Federal Form 1040; or line 19, Federal Form 1040A; or line 7 14 Federal Form 1040EZ). (If line 14 is zero, attach a copy of pages 1 and 2 of Federal Form 1040) Federal income tax before credits (total of line 38, Federal Form 1040, and alternative minimum tax, Federal Form 6251, if applicable [see instructions]; or line 20, Federal Form 1040A; or line 9, Federal Form 1040EZ; or line 38, Nebraska Schedule I; or line 59, Nebraska Schedule III) 15 16 Nebraska income tax (20% of line 15). My wat. annually. An exaction. 17 Nebraska income tax withheld (attach Nebraska copies of Federal Form W-2 17 or Form 14N . . 18 18 Food sales tax credit (total on line 12 above multiplied by \$21)... 19 1983 estimated tax payments (include 1982 overpayment credited to 1983) . . 20 20 Nonhighway use motor vehicle fuels credit (attach Form 4136N) 21 Credit for tax paid to another state (attach Nebraska Schedule II and a complete copy of the return filed with the other state)...... 22 Credit for the elderly (see instructions and attach copy of Fed. Schedules R&RP) 22 23 Renewable energy source systems credit (attach Form 5695N). 24 Total credits (total of lines 17 through 23)...... 24 25 If line 16 is greater than line 24, enter amount of balance due (pay in full with return). If Form 2210N is 25 attached, check here . Include penalty in line 25, and show amount of penalty here 26 26 If line 24 is greater than line 16, enter amount of overpayment 27 Amount of overpayment, line 26, you wish credited to 1984 estimated tax . . . 28 Amount of overpayment, line 26, to be refunded (allow 8 weeks for your refund check) Under penalties of perjury, I declare that I have examined this return, including accompanying schedules and statements, and to the best of my knowledge and belief it is correct and complete. I also declare that any food sales tax credit claimed above has not been

Your Signature

claimed on any other return.

Spouse's Signature (if filing jointly, both taxpayers must sign

City

State

Signature of Preparer Other than Taxpayer

Zip Code

JUDY RIPPINGALE LEGISLATIVE FISCAL ANALYST

STATE OF MONTANA

Office of the Legislative Discal Analyst

STATE CAPITOL HELENA, MONTANA 59620 406/449-2986 Exh.bit 3 2/13/85-HB 326 Hannah

January 21, 1985

Representative Tom Hannah Montana House of Representatives State Capitol Helena, MT 59620

Dear Representative Hannah:

As you requested, I have looked at the data you supplied on the relationship between Montana individual income tax liabilities and federal income taxes paid by Montanans. Based on that data, I believe a Montana income tax of 21 to 22 percent of the federal tax liability would generate approximately the same revenue as the current tax structure if the small business investment tax credit were retained. The percent required can be refined if the provisions of your proposed bill are amended.

If I can provide additional information, please contact me again.

Sincerely,

Judith Curtis Waldron

Sudith Curtis Walden

Senior Analyst

JCLEG:jt:TH 1-21-5



STATE OF MONTANA

Office of the Legislative Discal Analyst

STATE CAPITOL HELENA, MONTANA 59620 406/449-2986 Exhibit 3 213185 HB 326 Hannah

January 21, 1985

Representative Tom Hannah Montana House of Representatives State Capitol Helena, MT 59620

Dear Representative Hannah:

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If I can provide additional information, please contact me again.

Sincerely,

Julith Curtis Walden

Judith Curtis Waldron Senior Analyst

JCLEG: jt: TH 1-21-5

Exhibity HB326 2/13/85 Monasson

House Bill 326

Items Treatment Federal Adjusted Gross Income No Change Non Resident Alternative Tax Repealed .5% of Sales. Adjustments to Federal Adjusted Gross Income Interest on obligation of the U.S. No Change Interest on other States obligations No Longer Taxed Federal refund No Longer Taxed Elderly interest exclusion Federal retirement exclusion (\$3,600) Repealed No Change Benefits from private retirement (\$360) Change to \$3,600 Teachers retirement No Change Public employees retirement No Change Highway patrol retirement No Change Montana income tax refund No Change Firemen retirement Taxable Policeman retirement Taxable Taxed Twice Gain from Liquidating Corp. Tip Income Taxable Sub S Corporation No Change Disc No Change Adjustment for federal jobs credit Repealed Exemptions Same as Federal (no indexing) Handicapped child exemption Repealed Veterans bonus and military salary Repealed exclusion Itemized Deductions State income Tax Paid Deductible Federal income tax paid Repealed Child and dependent care expenses Repealed Deduction for political contribution Repealed Organic fertilizer deduction Repealed License plate fees Repealed

Standard Deduction

14

Federal -0bracket amount not indexed Out-of-state Credit

No change but there is no Montana Adjusted Gross Income to calculate it from

Credit for energy conservation

Repealed

Deduction for Sub S donation of computer equipment

Repealed

Nonresidents

Standard and Itemized Deductions Definition of nonresident income

% deductible

Repealed

Part year residents

Repealed

Partnership

No Change

Non-game wildlife

No Change

Investment Credit

No Change

Credit for the elderly

Repealed

Energy conservation credit

Repealed

Alternative energy credit

Repealed

Wind generate electricity

Disallowed on individual but allows Sub S and partnership but the only way they could get this is a pass-thru to the individual which is disallowed.

Hanson

... Amend Line 1, p.4, to read as follows:

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facilities; and after a hearing has been held by the

board with respect to their duties contained in

this subsection, rules relating to plan submission,

plan review, building and equipment standard

a public hearing by the department is not require

1 as specified in Section 50-60-204, MCA. The

proposed rules are effective upon approval

of the department and filing with the

secretary of state as a part of the state

building code; and