MINUTES OF THE MEETING TAXATION COMMITTEE MONTANA STATE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

March 12, 1985

The thirty-ninth meeting of the Taxation Committee was called to order in room 325 of the state capitol at 8:03 a.m. by Chairman Gerry Devlin.

<u>ROLL CALL:</u> All members were present as were Dave Bohyer, Researcher for the Legislative Council, and Alice Omang, Secretary.

CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE BILL 735: Representative Spaeth, District 84, stated that this bill, which is an act to reallocate funds among the highway program, the school foundation program and the local government block grant program and to raise the motor fuels tax rate 3 cents per gallon, is a strong dose of fiscal reality proposed by the governor. He said that the government surplus is gone and the legislature has a difficult challenge in balancing the state budget. He explained that this bill will increase the share of the mineral royalties to 92.5% for the school foundation program and it will also earmark 7.5% of the federal mineral royalties (\$3 million) to the local government block grant account and this will provide \$6 million to continue the motor vehicle reimbursement program and will provide a permanent source of revenue. He explained that this bill will also raise \$32 million for reconstruction of Montana's highways over the next biennium.

PROPONENTS: David Hunter, Director of the Office of Budget and Program Planning, stated that this is one of the least painful ways to balance the budget. He offered further testimony in support of this bill. See Exhibit 1.

Gary Wicks, Director of the Department of Highways, testified that this issue is not easy because no one likes to raise taxes, but there is a need for improving highways and a growing need for new highways. He indicated they had objectives to (1) finish the 74 miles of interstate that is left in Montana to complete (2) eliminate about 454 miles of primary highway that is critically deficient in the state of Montana and improve the remaining 5,000 miles

Taxation Committee March 12, 1985
Page Two

and (3) to establish a preventive maintence program to protect the investment in the highway system. He displayed to the committee some maps which illustrated the primary system program, the projects that will have to be cut out of the program if this bill does not pass and a map which indicated their proposed plan of highway construction for the years 1988 through 1991. He concluded by saying that if this bill does not pass, it is going to leave a deficit for future generations.

Dan Peoples, Chief Executor of Butte-Silver Bow, also representing the Urban Coalition and also on the Board of Directors for the Montana League of Cities and Towns, stated that he recognized the difficult job that the legislature has in regard to increasing any tax and they do support this bill. He addressed the impact that this bill would have on the block grant program. He said that if this program is not funded, the only alternative they would have would be to seek higher property taxes at the local level.

Alec Hanson, representing the Montana League of Cities and Towns, testified that the cities and towns have cut their expenditures back to the level of necessity and he informed the committee of the decreasing vehicle replacement account. He indicated that if the cities are going to have to make up a \$10 million deficit, they are going to have to increase mill levies; and the general tax increase in Montana will be on your house, your business, your farm and your ranch.

Bill Olson, Secretary-Manager of the Montana Contractors' Association, said that membership in this association is basically highway contractors and members of this association probably perform 90 to 95% of the highway construction work in Montana and their support of this bill is quite obvious.

There were no further proponents.

OPPONENTS: Robert VanDeVere, a concerned citizen who lives on the outskirts of Helena, gave a statement in opposition to this bill as he was against raising taxes in any form.

Taxation Committee March 12, 1985
Page Three

Larry Huss, representing the Montana Highway Users Federation, said that in 1972, they advocated raising the gas tax to help fund the highway program and instead the tax went to fund half of the highway patrol and in 1981, they supported the use of another 1 cent to build the highway program and again this went to the highway patrol. They also supported a bill in 1983, he continued, and this was used elsewhere and this year, the gas tax is not for the highway program. He indicated that there are sufficient funds to continue the highway program at its present level if the legislature simply follows through on its covenant to the people of Montana made in 1983 when it adopted the 6 cents gas tax.

Ben Havdahl, representing the Montana Motor Carriers, gave a statement in opposition to this bill. See Exhibit 2.

Representative Ramirez testified that this is a tax increase that is intended to balance the budget and it affects everyone and if there is going to be a tax increase, he thought it should be done up front rather than this way. that without this tax increase, revenue is going to increase - the existing tax structure that they have will provide more income for the state of Montana in the coming biennium than they have in the present biennium and that figure right now is \$58 million and that is the increase in revenue that will take place without any tax increases. He continued that if the Department of Revenue modifications are granted, that will net another \$10 million in increased revenue and that is a 10% increase in revenue at a time when he believes that many Montanans are not coming anywhere close to having that kind of increase in their incomes. He exclaimed that if they add this \$30 million in additional taxes, that will result in nearly \$100 million in additional revenue for the state of Montana and that is a 14% increase in revenue when people are having difficulty in making ends meet.

Larry Tobiason, President of the Montana Automobile Association, stated that their association has been very involved in the highway building program, but they find it very difficult to support this particular gas increase when so much has already been diverted from the highway trust fund for other purposes and basically to balance the general fund.

Taxation Committee March 12, 1985 Page Four

Bob Marks, testifying for himself, stated that he was especially against the part of the bill that would take 3 cents out of the pockets of the people of Montana and those people who are complaining about the block grant program were warned two years ago that the falling price of oil would put them in this predicament and now they are here trying to get some money out of a source that does not have anything to do with local impact. He informed the committee that 25% of the selling price of gas is already taxed and this bill will increase this to 27 to 28% and there has to be a limit someplace. He asked the committee to table this bill.

Senator Ed Smith, District 10, said that he represents an agricultural area and agriculture is struggling for life and today they are paying more in taxes on gas and fuel than what they paid for the fuel combined with the taxes less than 20 years ago. He said that if the committee has any sympathy for agriculture, they should not pass this legislation and drive another nail into the coffin.

Keith Olson, Executive Director of the Montana Logging Association, indicated that they supported the gas tax increase in 1983 because they believe in a strong and agressive highway construction program, but they now feel somewhat betrayed because they feel that fuel tax may be the panacea for all things including a balanced state budget.

Ray Havig, owner of Bairs Truck Stops and Service Stations, and also representing the Montana Chapter of Intermountain Oil Markets, distributed to the committee Exhibit 3. He stated that he questioned the logic that because the price of something comes down, it should be taxed higher and they would appraise this bill as a sales tax on gasoline.

Doug Alexander, Chairman of the Legislative Committee for the Montana Chapter of Intermountain Oil Markets, said that they strongly oppose this bill and they feel that Taxation Committee March 12, 1985
Page Five

it is very wrong to use gasoline tax to fund programs other than highway, road repairs and rebuilding of highways. They felt this would be setting a questionable precedent.

Tom Hanson, representing the Montana Automobile Dealers' Association, stated that to put this added tax on gasoline is to put the burden of taxation upon everybody without regard to whether or not there is a profit involved and it is inappropriate to take this money away from the legitimate highway program.

There were no further opponents.

QUESTIONS ON HOUSE BILL 735: Representative Sands stated that in the last legislature, they increased gas tax by 6 cents and the whole idea was to fund the highway program and he asked Mr. Wicks to explain to him why that 6-cents gas tax is not enough to fund the highway program that was planned for in the past.

Mr. Wicks answered that the legislature never intended and they never received 6 cents a gallon for the highway program - they clearly indicated that 1½ cent would go to local governments, another 1 cent goes to highway patrol for salaries and they probably had in the neighborhood of 3½ cents a gallon for the highway program. He advised that with that and what they anticipated from the coal tax, they told the legislature that they could fund the program through 1987 and that was the position they were in before it became apparent that something had to be done about the general fund and about the general budget and this would take some of the mineral royalties that previously had been committed to the highway program and dedicate it to the school foundation program. He indicated that if this is done, this will not correct the coal tax problem and the highway program will be \$28 millon short from what they anticipated 1983 and this would be replaced with the fuel tax increase that is in this bill.

Representative Sands asked why the programs that were shown on the charts were not still in effect and did they make some miscalculations.

Taxation Committee March 12, 1985 Page Six

Mr. Wicks replied that they did not make any miscalculations in the coal tax, but they found out in the latter days of the 1983 session that the intention of the legislature and the highway department was to take money from the coal tax and put it to the highways beginning in fiscal 1986 and the bill read July 1, 1986, which is in reality fiscal year 1987, so because of that they lost approximately \$13 million. He continued that they based their program on the availability of that money and the availability of the mineral royalties.

Representative Ream asked Mr. Wicks to comment on alternate fuels and asked what percentage of overall budget does the mineral royalties represent.

Mr Wicks answered that the bills on alternate fuels are in the Senate and he thought there should be taxes on those alternate fuels; and in terms of mineral royalties, their revenues in 1986 will end up being about \$125 million and mineral royalties make up about \$7.5 million of that.

Representative Ream asked what is the remainder.

Mr. Wicks responded that the remainder is GVW, which will bring in about \$23 million, the gas tax at the current rate should bring in about \$62 million and the diesel tax should bring in about \$18 million and the coal tax revenue, if it should be what it should be, should bring in about \$6 million and interest income should bring in about \$6 million.

Representative Harp stated that last session local governments received a 100% increase in funding for streets and roads and he felt that was a very generous offer and he asked Mr. Hanson if he would agree.

Mr. Hanson responded that that money does help, but they need to go back to 1981 when the legislature repealed the tax on automobiles and light trucks and this cost the cities, counties and schools in Montana \$30 million and now the cost is \$34 million and there was a promise that those funds would be replaced. He indicated that if this bill is not passed, or some acceptable

Taxation Committee March 12, 1985 Page Seven

alternative, that promise is going to be broken.

Chairman Devlin asked if it was to come about, would he support the return to the tax system for cars and light vehicles.

Mr. Hanson replied that he felt they would have to. As it is right now with the loss of \$10 million they are in a desperate situation.

Chairman Devlin asked the same question of Mr. Peoples, who responded that he did not think they had any other choice.

Representative Asay asked Mr. Wicks about a corresponding decrease in costs.

Mr. Wicks answered that the contractors' payments will be increased as they have an expanded program and if they take that out, they are looking at a budget request that is less than what they had budgeted for 1985 and most of that is that they are looking at reduced costs for road oil, gasoline and diesel.

Representative Keenan asked Representative Marks if he knew where the \$68 million increase in revenue, which Representative Ramirez referred to, was coming from.

Representative Marks said that he believed that this was in reference to House Joint Resolution 9 and examination of that estimate would indicate that the on-going revenue sources that are in place now will grow to the tune of some \$60 million and that is an approximately 9% growth.

Chairman Devlin asked Mr. Havdahl if his group would be inclined to come before the PSC for a rate increase because of the increase in taxes.

Mr. Havdahl replied that that is difficult to answer, because all of their carriers are not operating under regulated authority and, in fact, the vast majority of trucking in Montana involves non-regulated commodities. He stated that in the case of regulated commodities, if this affects the cost significantly enough, it might happen that they will have to go to the PSC for a rate increase.

Taxation Committee March 12, 1985 Page Eight

Mayo (?) Foster, Vice-president of United Industries, informed the committee that he runs in excess of 200 vehicles in the state of Montana and he would be pleased to pay a 3 cent increase if it will keep our highway program as it is currently or as it is projected.

Chairman Devlin asked if the appropriations committee would have to go back in and look over the appropriations if this should pass.

Representative Spaeth responded that he is on appropriations and they dealt with that and they determined that the amount of moneys would be sufficient and they did not take any formal position but they felt that if an increase did arise in the gas tax, they would probably not adjust the budgets.

There were no further questions.

Representative Spaeth stated that he is a strong supporter of users paying their way, that he felt it was important to keep our highway construction on tract and he asked if the legislature does not pass any revenue enhancement measures, where do they make the cuts in the budget.

The hearing on this bill was closed and the committee recessed and moved to room 312-1 at 9:59 a.m.

CONSIDERATION OF HOUSE BILL 822: Representative Schye, District 18, said that this bill was introduced at the request of the Montana Pilots' Association and that there are special problems in living in a large rural state and that many people are not aware that the state's airports are not in the same condition as the highways. He distributed to the committee Exhibits 4 through 15. He informed the committee that Jim Haughey was at the meeting and he represented the F.A.A. and he could answer questions, but he could not testify on the bill.

PROPONENTS: Sam Hubbard, Deputy Director of the Department of Commerce, stated that at the current level of operations, the aeronautics fund will be in a deficit position by 1988 and this bill would provide the funds to remedy that problem. He indicated that there was a problem with the bill as drafted, i.e., on page 5, line 1, the bill would provide that those funds could not be spent without prior approval of the board and they feel that this puts the board into a new position

Taxation Committee March 12, 1985 Page Nine

of responsibility and it would make administrative duties of the department much more difficult and cumbersome and they would request that "with prior approval" be stricken.

Marilyn Lewis, representing the Montana Flying Farmers and Ranchers, said that they represent about 125 families in the state of Montana and they use the small airports more than the large ones and they are concerned about the maintenance on these airports.

John Semple, representing the Montana Aviation Trades Association, testified that they agree with the previous testimony and are in support of this bill.

Ted Mathis, the airport manager at Gallatin Field near Bozeman, and president of the Montana Airport Management Association, advised the committee that this bill simply allows the aviation industry to increase the fuel tax paid by the aviation industry to support the programs and facilities designed for the aviation industry.

Fred Lark, Lewistown, representing the Montana Aeronautics Board and the Montana Pilots' Association, said that this bill would fund all airports and there would be no discrimination whatsoever.

Russ Pankey, Director of Airports of Missoula County, indicated that they support this bill as amended by Mr. Mathis.

There were no further proponents.

OPPONENTS: Les Loble, representing Northwest Airlines and other air carriers, handed out to the committee a copy of a proposed amendment. See Exhibit 16.

Steven Wheeler, representing Northwest Airlines and other major airlines serving Montana, gave a statement in opposition to this bill. See Exhibit 17.

Carol Luther, Manager of Public Affairs for Frontier Airlines, offered testimony opposing this bill. See Exhibit 18.

Taxation Committee March 12, 1985
Page Ten

Marcy Stinson, an employee of the Montana Refining Company in Great Falls, offered a statement in opposition to this bill. See Exhibit 19.

Larry Stanley, an employee of Western Airlines, rose in opposition to this bill. See Exhibit 20.

Jim Mular, the State Legislative Director of the Brother-hood of Railway and Airline Clerks, stated that they adopted a resolution to oppose this particular legislation and this bill asked the major cities to build the smaller airports.

Arden Smith, an employee of Northwest Airlines in Helena, testified that he felt that the added increase is not needed or justified and also that there is no apparent benefit to the principal payers. He concluded that he was concerned about what this bill would do to his present employment in Montana.

Terry Marshall, representing Big Sky Airlines and also Chairman of the Aeronautics Board, informed the committee that more and more of the relationship of the air carriers is one of interdependency and they work closely with each other to be able to service the market's needs.

Arden Smith, an employee of Northwest Airlines, gave a statement in opposition to this bill. See Exhibit 21.

There were no further opponents, but Mr. Lobled handed out Exhibit 22.

QUESTIONS ON HOUSE BILL 822: Representative Sands noted that they started out with quite a large balance and now are projecting a deficit and he asked why.

Mr. Hubbard responded that prior to closure of the Glasgow Air Base and the reduction in activity in Malmstrom in Great Falls, the aeronautic's fund developed a rather substantial balance as result of tax collection from the military, but they have gradually been drawing down that balance and the day of reckoning is about to come.

Taxation Committee March 12, 1985 Page Eleven

Representative Sands asked if this tax increase comes about, do they have projections of how they will spend the money.

Mr. Hubbard replied that they have calculated that they are proposing to continue on the current level of operations that they have been providing over the last several years and this would simply go to offset that declining money. He indicated that the legislation does contemplate more funds available for airport loans and improvements.

Representative Sands noted that they are going to have a 200% increase and asked why they are not going to increase services at all.

Mr. Hubbard answered that they have a downward curve in available funds now; revenues have stayed constant but for a long time, the actual cost of doing business have exceeded the actual revenues collected and they are about to exhaust that fund balance. He indicated that they are now going to have to match the current operations with the actual money generated by the 1-cent-per-gallon fuel tax.

Representative Gilbert asked Mr. Stanley some questions concerning deregulation and the price war among airlines.

Representative Gilbert asked if it was not good business to raise prices if the airlines are hurting so bad.

Mr. Stanley responded that there are people that are able to produce the product cheaper and they either match that price or they go out of business and they have been in business for 57 years.

Representative Gilbert asked several questions concerning fees at different airports.

Representative Gilbert asked where is the 1 cents going today.

Representative Schye replied that the 1 cent is running the aeronautics division right now, but the 1 cent used to cover two accounts. Taxation Committee March 12, 1985 Page Twelve

Representative Patterson asked Representative Schye about loans and grants.

Representative Schye indicated that the airports could borrow money and they would have to pay that back but on grants, they would not have to pay that back. He explained that the aeronautic's board is chosen by the governor, consisting of nine people and they are the ones that decide where the loans and grants go.

Representative Asay asked if there was some intertie between HB 324 and this bill.

Representative Schye stated that he was a strong supporter of this bill also and the 10% match money could only be used for certain things, i.e., new construction and reconstruction and there are stipulations on that and that only applies to the airports that qualify and 30% of the airports in Montana do not qualify.

Representative Sands asked Mr. Wheeler about the fuel taxes in surrounding states compared to Montana as per the handout.

Mr. Wheeler answered that the ones for Montana are accurate, but Utah shows a 4-cents tax on the airlines and it is his understanding that 3 cents of that goes back to the originating airport and in Wyoming, they have a 4-cents tax, but under that program, all but administrative costs, goes to the airport from which the fuel was originated so he did not feel that this chart was accurate.

Representative Sands asked how the landing fees compare with the state fuel tax.

Mr. Wheeler responded that the landing fees that Northwest paid in 1984 were \$660,000.00 just for the landing fees and the other carriers paid substantial sums for landing fees as well and the fuel tax they paid was \$62,000.00 and the others were approximately \$45,000.00.

Chairman Devlin asked the representative of Big Sky if they were solely Montana based.

Taxation Committee March 12, 1985 Page Thirteen

Mr. Marshall replied that they are based in Billings and they serve two cities in North Dakota and one city in Wyoming.

Chairman Devlin asked where do they pay their property taxes.

Mr. Marshall responded that they are assessed by the state and collected by the counties where there is service.

Representative Asay asked Ms. Stinson if Northwest fueled up in Great Falls.

She replied that they did and they have to remain competitive as the major airlines are their biggest customers.

There were no further questions.

Representative Schye stated that this is an important bill for Montana aviation trades and he indicated they could work out some of the amendments suggested except for the one which would exclude airlines.

The hearing on this bill was closed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

DISPOSTION OF HOUSE BILL 652: Representative Switzer handed proposed amendments out to the committee. See Exhibit 23. Mr. Bohyer explained the amendments and Representative Switzer moved that the amendments BE ADOPTED. He explained that the Powell county commissioners wrote him and told him that this is particularly important to them concerning the reclamation feature.

Representative Switzer also distributed to the committee the amended fiscal note. See Exhibit 24. A vote was taken on the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Representative Switzer moved that this bill DO PASS AS AMEND-ED and the motion carried with a vote of 10 to 9. See Roll Call Vote. Taxation Committee March 12, 1985 Page Fourteen

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:42 a.m.

GERRY DEVLIN, Chairman

Alice Omang, Secretary

DAILY ROLL CALL

HOUSE	TAXATION	COMMITTEE

49th LEGISLATIVE SESSION -- 1985

Date 3/12/85

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

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT Page 1 of 2

		March 12	19 95
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> Chairman. REP. GRORY OFWITH

ROLL CALL VOTE

DATE March 12, 1985 BILL NO.	HB 652 TIM	ME
NAME	AYE	NAY
DEVLIN, GERRY, Chrm.	x	
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		
HARP, JOHN		X
IVERSON, DENNIS	X	
KEENAN, NANCY		X
KOEHNKE, FRANCIS		Y
PATTERSON, JOHN	X	
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SANDS, JACK	X	
SCHYE, TED		X
SWITZER, DEAN	X	
ZABROCKI, CARL		X
	'	'
Secretary Alice Omang Ch	airman Gerry Devlin	
Motion: DO PASS, AS AMENDED		

HOUSE BILL 735

Exhibit |
HB 735
3/12/85
David Hunter

House Bill 735 will accomplish three things:

1. It will earmark substantial additional revenue to the school foundation program. Currently, the school foundation program receives 62.5% of the state's share of the federal mineral royalties. This bill will increase the foundation program's share to 92.5%, providing an additional \$12.13 million in revenue during the coming biennium. This reduces the general fund cost of the foundation program by a like amount.

FY '86-'87 Biennium

	<u>%</u>	Current \$	<u>%</u>	Proposed \$	General Fund Savings
School Foundation Highway Program	62.5 37.5	\$25.27 million 15.13 million	92.5 0	\$37.40 million	\$12.13 million
Local Government Block Grant	0	0	7.5	3.0	

2. It provides \$6 million to the local government block grant account. The bill earmarks 7.5% of the state's share of the federal mineral royalties (about \$3 million during the coming biennium) and appropriates \$3 million in general fund to the local government block grant amounts. This will help finance the motor vehicle reimbursement program and provide a new, permanent source of revenue for Montana's local governments.

	FY '86-'87 Biennium	
Local Government Block Grant	Current Biennium	With House Bill 735
1/3 of Oil Severance Tax General Fund Appropriation 7.5% of Federal Mineral Royalties	\$24.17 million 0 0	\$24.17 million 3.00 3.03
TOTAL	\$24.17	\$30.20

3. It raise \$17 million for the highway reconstruction program during the coming biennium. The proposed 3¢ increase in gasoline and diesel tax will raise about \$16 million per year, offsetting the loss of the federal mineral royalty funds and providing an additional \$17.4 million to the highway program during the next beinnium.

FY '86-'87 Biennium

Loss of Federal Mineral Royalty 3¢ Motor Fuel Tax Increase (15.13) million 32.57 million

MICA STATEMENT ON HOUSE BILL 735

The Montana Motor Carriers Association is opposed to House Bill 735 ... we are opposed to the increase in diesel fuel tax and gasoline tax by an additional 3 cents per gallon

We are opposed to diverting highway trust fund money to balance the state general fund budget.... a back door approach by taking federal mineral royalty payments approaching \$7.5 million per year from highways and using the money to fund the school foundation program and local block grants.

It is the firm belief of MMCA that the use of federal royalties for construction and maintenance of roads and highways in the State and in areas where these resources are being developed is exactly what the U.S. Congress intended these funds for. To totally remove these royalty payments from the highway trust fund, is in our view, inconsistent with the federal law authorizing their payment.

Title 30, Section 19 of the Federal Mineral Lands and Mining Act indicates that it is intended that states give priority to the use of royalty payments for impacted areas specifically for planning, construction and maintenance of public facilities and provision of public service. Our reading of that language would discourage use of 100% of these funds for general fund uses.

The Montana Motor Carriers Association, has an established on-going policy, strongly supporting an adequately financed highway program in Montana. The trucking industry in Montana has always paid its fair share of the cost of building and maintaining our highway system. Of the \$90 million dollars, or so, collected and deposited in the state's highway earmarked account in 1983, \$55.5 million or 62% was paid in GVW fees, fuel taxes and other taxes by trucks and buses in the state.

In addition \$24 million dollars of the \$37.4 million dollars collected in federal user taxes in the state or 64% was paid by trucks and buses.....

In the 1981 Legislature, the Motor Carriers Association supported a fuel tax increase needed for the reconstruction of our primary highway system. The measure did not pass.

During the 1983 session of the legislature and the preceeding year, the motor carrier industry worked very closely with the various interim committees as well as the Governor to design and obtain passage of a huge highway funding program designed to improve and extend the life of Montana's highways. Since the last session of this legislature, state diesel fuel taxes increased 55%, from 11 cents to 17 cents per gallon; federal diesel fuel taxes have increased 275% from 4 cents to 15 cents per gallon.....

Exhibit 2 HB 735 3/12/85 / Ben Havedah The diesel fuel tax rate in Montana of 17 cents per gallon, is the second highest diesel fuel tax rate in the country, If HB 735 becomes law, Montana will have the dubious honor of having the highest diesel fuel tax rate in the nation at 20 cents per gallon.

I would also point out that the total state and federal diesel fuel taxes of 32 cents per gallon is 8 cents higher... 33% more.... than the total state and federal taxes on gasoline of 24 cents.

Montana's surrounding states have diesel fuel tax rates per gallon considerably lower. North Dakota is 13 cents; Idaho is 14.5 cents; Utah is 14 cents and Wyoming is 8 cents.

In addition, federal taxes on trucks as well as fuel were raised in 1983 and 1984. The federal use tax on heavy trucks was increased 162%.....from \$210 to \$550 per truck.

In addition, excise taxes on new trucks and trailers increased 32%...

The excise taxes on truck tires was increased 45%.

The impact of increased State and Federal highway taxes on a typical five axle semi is major. We have calculated the impact of the tax increases using a typical combination as follows:

An 80,000 pound five axle tractor semi trailer combination... with the tractor valued at \$75,000 the semi trailer valued at \$22,000, and estimated fuel consumption of 14,583 gallons traveling 70,000 miles in the state. This sample unit is used as the basis for Federal Highway Adminsitration's Road User and Property Taxes Report. However, in Montana, 100,000 miles to 120,000 miles per year per truck are more realistic.

Montana taxes paid on the sample unit in 1984 was approximately \$5,429 an increase of 36% when compared to the tax cost prior to July, 1983 of about \$4,000.

Federal diesel fuel tax increases, the federal use tax increase and the array of federal excise tax increases add an additional \$4,151 to the state taxes on the five axle semi for a total of \$9,580 per year per truck. A cost of 14 cents per mile.

The federal tax increases represent a 133% increase in the federal taxes of \$1,785 paid prior to the enactment of the Federal Surface Transportation and Assistance Act of 1983... there wasn't much "assistance" to truckers in that act.

We're opposed to House Bill 735, not because of any change in our policy to support the highway program in Montana....but simply because....WE CANNOT AFFORD IT.....

The Montana Motor Carriers Association has some 450 Carrier and Supplier Members, all of whom are employers and range in size from a one-truck operation to medium size companies operating fleets of trucks up to 300 plus in numbers. We have only a handful of large out-of-state carriers as members of MMCA. 95% of our Montana based trucking companies operate in several states, some in all 48 states. They have to if they are to survive. Because of the economics, few trucking companies I know of can operate profitably solely within Montana. Some trucking operations such as log hauling, wood chip hauling, and livestock hauling are operating soley within Montana; however, their economic well being is marginal at best and unprofitable at worst.

In 1983, for example, from reports to the PSC, 56 Montana regulated livestock carriers reported a combined revenue from livestock hauling within Montana of \$3.15 million and expenses of \$3.19 million...an operating ratio of 101% or a loss of 1% AND THAT WAS BEFORE INCREASED FEDERAL AND TRUCK TAXES AND 6 MONTHS OF STATE INCREASED TAXES.

The burden of the "cost squeeze" faces all our members and the problem has grown to acute levels. Costs of doing business, including those imposed by governments at the federal and state levels, are among major costs adversely affecting the trucking industry in the State. Some I've already mentioned. There are others...Montana Worker's Compensation premiums for truckmen increased 50% two years ago and are threatened with an additional 35% hike....Unemployment Compensation premium costs will go up approximately 40% for trucking companies to offset a large deficit balance in that trust fund.

Trucking industry liability insurance rates, effective January 1, 1985, increased ranging from 50% to 400% because of government required liability limits for general commodity carriers to \$750,000, \$1 million for non-bulk hazardous materials, and trucks carrying bulk hazardous materials to \$5,000,000.....

Cargo insurance rates have increased from 50% to as high as 370%....these rates are not manual rates or not published in a book but are based on certain criteria of the company....the most important is the carrier's perceived financial health....in other words, the poorer a company's financial status, the higher the rate.

All of these factors, together with partial deregulation of interstate trucking in 1980, coupled with the 1981-1982 recession during which time many carriers scraped by with chewing gum and rubber bands, cutting rates in an effort to keep customers while putting off capital improvements....all of these have added up to adversely affect trucking operations bringing some to the brink.

In the last two or three months, two companies, Salt Creek Freightways and Tomahawk Transportation have filed for bankruptcy since January 1 of this year.

Another Montana Carrier, Transystems has moved 80% of its employees that were based in Montana out of Montana. Because of the drop in industrial activity, the company has placed nearly all of its Montana trucking properties in the market for sale and anticipates that in the near future its operations in Montana will consist of only a few contractural projects.

No doubt others will follow suit.

I point out <u>all</u> these cost factors because they are, cost, factors affecting the bottom line....the "cost squeeze".

It's appropriate, I think, to remind this committee that Montana is the most remote, transportaion dependent state in the Union. To serve the same number of people that would be served in the industrial northeast United States, a truck in Montana must travel 12 times farther over roads paid for only by 7% of the number of people per mile as the industrial northeast. Transportation burdens in Montana are staggering and the principal users of our services, the farmers, ranchers and timber industry, are in no position to pay the bill.

As the inablilty to pay higher transportation costs increases, it is simple for the motor carrier industry to reduce in size, find alternatives, or leave the state. Unfortunately the latter is the option most frequently used. Total state and federal Highway use taxes alone now are pushing and in many cases exceed \$1,000 a month on Montana based over-the-road vehicles that travel 100,000 or 120,000 miles annually. With the impact of property taxes on trucks plus highway taxes, I believe that we would find that Montana has the fourth most highest taxed vehicles in the entire nation. (Arizona \$8,474; Colorado \$6,256; Oregon \$6,010 Montana \$5,429) Only Colorado of those states mentioned, assess a property tax on trucks, in addition to highway users taxes.

We question seriously whether further tax increases of any kind is an intelligent approach for a state that both requires more transportation per capita than any other state in the Union and whose principal industries of agriculture, timber, mining and petroleum are transportation intensive.

It's time to stop increasing taxes and unnecessary costs to employers in the state....WE CAN STAND NO MORE....

We urge the defeat of HB 735.

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ADDENDUM TO MMCA STATEMENT OF HB 735

A typical combination as follows:

An 80,000 pound five axle tractor semi trailer combination.... tractor valued at \$75,000 and semi-trailer valued at \$22,000. Estimated fuel consumption of 14,583 gallons traveling 70,000 miles in the State. This unit is used as basis for Federal Highway Administrations Road User and Property Taxes Report. However, in Montana 100,000 miles to 120,000 miles per year are more realistic.

Tax Description	Current Tax Rate	Tax Cost
Ventore CIVI Man	schedule	¢ 001 00
Montana GVW Tax	schedule	\$ 991.00
Montana Misc. Truck		\$ 139.00
Montana Diesel Fuel	.17 per gallon	\$2,479.00
Montana Property Tax	state wide avg. mileage	\$1,820.00
Total Montana Taxes		\$5,429.00
Federal Heavy Truck Tax	*	\$ 550.00
Federal Misc. Excise Taxes	s **	\$1,414.00
Federal Diesel Fuel Tax	.15 per gallon	\$2,187.00
Total Federal Taxes		\$4,151.00
Total Montana and Federal	Taxes	\$9,580.00

^{* \$100} plus \$22 for each additional 1,000 pounds, maximum \$550

** Trucks/Trailer excise tax tire tax Parts & Accessories Lube oil tax

Note:

100,000 miles	Montana Fuel Tax \$3,541	Federal $$3,125 = 6.666
120,000 miles	Montana Fuel Tax \$4,250	Federal \$3,750 = \$8,000

^{**} Trucks/Trailer excise tax, tire tax, Parts & Accessories, Lube oil tax

GVW TAXES

Growth of highway trust fund revenues from GVW fees, including International Registration Plan Sources.

Fiscal Year	Revenue *
1975	\$10,250,000
1976	\$13,250,000
1977	\$14,060,000
1978	\$15,400,000
1979	\$17,850,000
1980	\$18,200,000
1981	\$19,700,000
1982	\$21,000,000
1983	\$21,800,000

^{*} Average percentage growth per year is 10% per year plus per year total revenues have increased 113% since 1975.

\$ 190. Onth; requirement; form; blanks

West's Federal Forms Jurns, see § 1487.

§ 191. Disposition of moneys received

All money received from sales, bonuses, royalties including interest charges collected under the Federal Oil and Gas Royalty Management Act of 1982 [30 U.S.C.A. § 1701 et seq.], and rentals of the public lands under the provisions of this chapter and the Geothermal Steam Act of 1970 [30 U.S.C.A. § 1001 et seq.]. notwithstanding the provisions of section 20 thereof [30 U.S.C.A. § 1019], shall be paid into the Treasury of the United States; 50 per centum thereof shall be paid by the Secretary of the Treasury to the State other than Alaska within the boundaries of which the leased lands or deposits are or were located; said moneys paid to any of such States on or after January 1, 1976, to be used by such State and its subdivisions, as the legislature of the State may direct giving priority to those subdivisions of the State socially or economically impacted by development of minerals leased under this chapter, for (i) planning, (ii) construction and maintenance of public facilities, and (iii) provision of public service; and excepting these from Alaska, 40 per centum thereof shall be paid into, reserved, appropriated, as part of the reclamation fund created by the Act of Congress known as the Reclamation Act, approved June 17, 1902, and of those from Alaska, 90 per centum thereof shall be paid to the State of Alaska for disposition by the legislature thereof: Provided. That all moneys which may accrue to the United States under the provisions of this chapter and the Geothermal Steam Act of 1970 from lands within the naval petroleum reserves shall be deposited in the Treasury as "miscellaneous receipts", as provided by section 7433(5) of Title 10. All moneys received under the provisions of this chapter and the Geothermal Steam Act of 1970 not otherwise disposed of by this section shall be credited to miscellaneous receipts. Payments to States under this section with respect to any moneys received by the United States, shall be made not later than the last business day of the month in which such moneys are warranted by the United States Treasury to the Secretary as having been received, except for any portion of such moneys which is under challenge and placed in a suspense account pending resolution of a dispute. Such warrants shall be issued by the United States Treasury not later than 10 days after receipt of such moneys by the Treasury. Moneys placed in a suspense account which are determined to be payable to a State shall be made not later than the last business day of the month in which such dispute is resolved. Any such amount placed in a suspense account pending resolution shall bear interest until the dispute is resolved.

(As amended Apr. 21, 1976, Pub.L. 94-273, § 6(2), 90 Stat. 377; Aug. 4, 1976, Pub.L. 94-377, § 9, 90 Stat. 1090; Sept. 28, 1976, Pub.L. 94-422, Title III, § 301, 90 Stat. 1323; Oct. 21, 1976, Pub.L. 94-579, Title III, § 317(a), 90 Stat. 2770; Jan. 12, 1983, Pub.L. 97-451, Title I, § 104(a), 111(g), 96 Stat. 2451, 2456.)

References in Text. The Federal Oil and Gas Royalty Management Act of 1982, referred to in text, is Pub.L. 97-451, Jan. 12, 1983, 96 Stat. 2447, which is classified principally to chapter 29 (section 1701 et seq.) of this title. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note under section 1701 of this title and Tables volume.

The Geothermal Steam Act of 1970, referred to in text, is Pub.L. 91-581, Dec. 24, 1970, 84 Stat. 1566, which is classified principally to chapter 23 (section 1001 et seq.) of this title. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 1001 of this title and Tables volume.

The Rectamation Act, referred to in text, is Act June 17, 1902, c. 1093, 32 Stat. 388, as amended, which is classified generally to chapter 12 (section 371 et seq.) of Title 43, Public Lands. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see

Short Title note set out under section 371 of Title 43 and Tables volume.

Codification. "Section 7433(b) of Title 10" was substituted for "the Act of June 4, 1920 (41 Stat. 813), as amended June 30, 1938 (52 Stat. 1252)", which had been classified to section 524 of former Title 34, Navy, on authority of section 49(b) of Act Aug. 10, 1956, c. 1041. 70A Stat. 640, section 1 of which enacted Title 10, Armed Forces.

Provisions which authorized the payment of monies to the Territory of Alaska were omitted as superseded by the provisions authorizing the payment of monies to the State of Alaska.

1983 Amendment, Pub.L. 97-451, § 104(a), struck out provision which had directed that moneys received by the Treasury of the United States from sales, bonuses, royalties, interest charges, and rentals of public lands be pand out by the Secretary of the Treasury to the States "as acon as practicable after March 31 and September 30 of each year" and added provisions directing that

UNITED STATES TAX RATE

July 1, 1984

STATE	GASOLINE	DIESEL	INSPECTION FEES
		212022	
California	.09		
Colorado	.12	.13	
Idaho	.145	.145	
Iowa	.13		
Kansas	.11		.005 Bbl.
Montana	.15	.17	
Nebraska	.149		
Nevada ·	.12		.0005 Gal.
New Mexico	.11		
North Dakota	.13	.13	.00025 Gal.
Oregon	.09		
South Dakota	.13	.13	
Texas	•05	.065	
Utah	.14		
Washington	.18	.18	
Wyoming	.08		

Effective April 1, 1983, Federal Gasoline and Distallates Tax increased from \$0.04 per gallon to \$0.09 per gallon



Exhibit 4 HB 822 3/12/85 Rep Sobye

LIE E E E E

MONTANA AIRPORT DIRECTORY.





MONTANA
AERONAUTICS DIVISION

AERONAUTICAL CHART

Exhibit 6 HB 822 3/12/85 Rep. Schye

AERONAUTICS DIVISION

Funding Projections

At Current 1¢ per Gallon Aviation Fuel Tax

	FY85	FY86	FY87	FY88	FY89
Beginning Acct. Balance (w/o Airport Lic. Mod.)	426,266	242,181	84,466	(66,931)	(266,284)
Income Aviation Fuel Tax Other Income	321,000 184,000	321,000 171,000	321,000 151,500	321,000 128,500	321,000 <u>96,500</u>
Total Income	505,000	492,000	472,500	449,500	417,500
*Expenses (Current Level)	(689,085)	(649,715)	(623,897)	(648,853)	(674,807)
Ending Account Balance	242,181	84,466	(66,931)	(266,284)	(523,591)

^{*} All expenses are based on budgeted levels with inflation of 4 percent added to personal services in fiscal years 1986 and 1987. Inflation of 4 percent is added to all budget lines for fiscal years 1988 and 1989.

-	FUEL
Febru	TAX
ary	COMP
1985	➣
	S

NO	YES	NO	NO	NO	. 0 4	. 04	BNIMOAM
YES	YES9	YES	NO	NO	ON	. 06	WISCONSIN
YES	NO	YES	NO	7-8.5%	NO	3%9	WASHINGTON
NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	. 04	. 0 4	UTAH
NO	NO	YES	YES	NO	.048	.068	SOUTH DAKOTA
YES	NO	YES	YES ⁷	NO	. 005	. 03	OREGON
YES	YES ⁶	NO	NO	5% (GA ONLY)	NO	NO	0110
YES	NO	YES	YES ⁵	NO	4%	4%	NORTH DAKOTA
NO	NO	YES	NO	NO	. 03	. 05	NEBRASKA
YES	NO	YES	NO	NO	.014	.014	MONTANA
YES	NO ³	YES	YES ²	NO	. 05	.05	MINNESOTA
YES	N O	YES	YES 1	NO	. 03	. 03	MICHIGAN
YES	N O	YES	NO	NO	. 035	. 035	IDAHO
The state of the s		NONE	NO	3%	NO	No	COLORADO
REG. FEES	FUNDED N. FUND	AERONAUTICS FUEL TAX GE	REBATES	SALES TAX ON FUEL	FUEL TAX AIRLINES	STATE	STATE
			COMPARISONS ary 1985	FUEL TAX COM February		keh and	Exhibit T +B 822 3/12/85 Rep.Schye

^{\$.015} rebate to airlines

Fuel tax \$.05 maximum. (\$.05 to 50,000 gal.; \$.02 50,000-150,000 gal.;

^{\$.01 150,000-200,000} gal.; \$.005 over 200,000 gal.

Aeronautics Division receives approximately \$320,000/year from fuel taxes Aeronautics Division receives airline flight property taxes

No fuel tax to international flights Aeronautics Division receives all of revenue generated by fuel sales tax \$.08 maximum fuel tax. Rebate of any amount over \$.08/gal

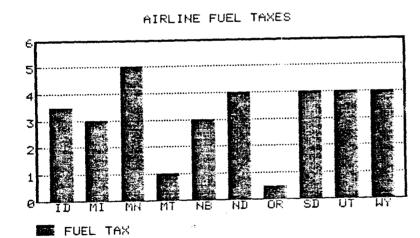
Aeronautics \$.04/gal on all jet fuel, \$.06/gal on all avgas Division receives airline flight property taxes

Tax as Percentage of Price

The aviation fuel tax has been 1¢ per gallon since it was first levied in 1945. At that time, aviation fuel sold for 26¢ per gallon. Thus, the tax constituted 3.8 percent of price. Currently, almost 40 years later, aviation fuel sells for about \$2.00 per gallon. With the tax still at 1¢ per gallon, it now amounts to .5 percent of price. The following table compares tax as a percentage of price at five levels.

		Tax as Percentage
Price Per Gallon	Tax	of Price
\$.26	\$.01	3.8
2.00	.01	.5
2.00	.02	1.0
2.00	.03	1.5
2.00	.04	2.0

The table shows that even if the tax was raised to 4¢ per gallen, it would amount to only 2 percent of price or 1.8 percent less than the tax rate in 1945.

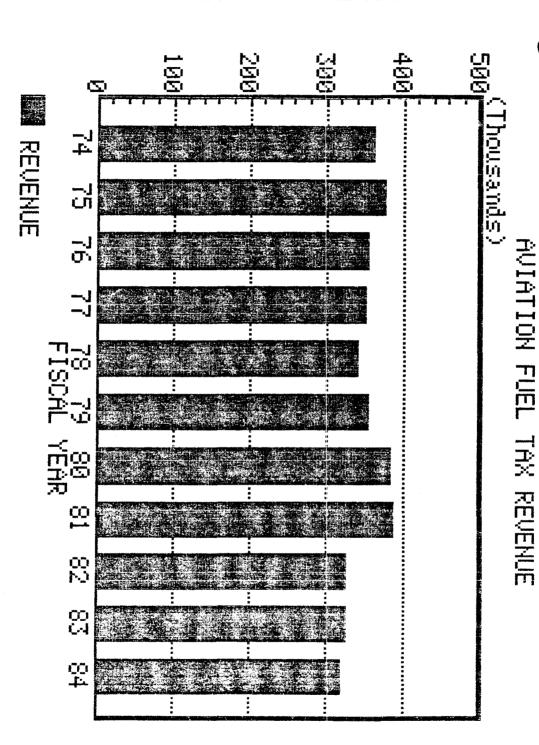


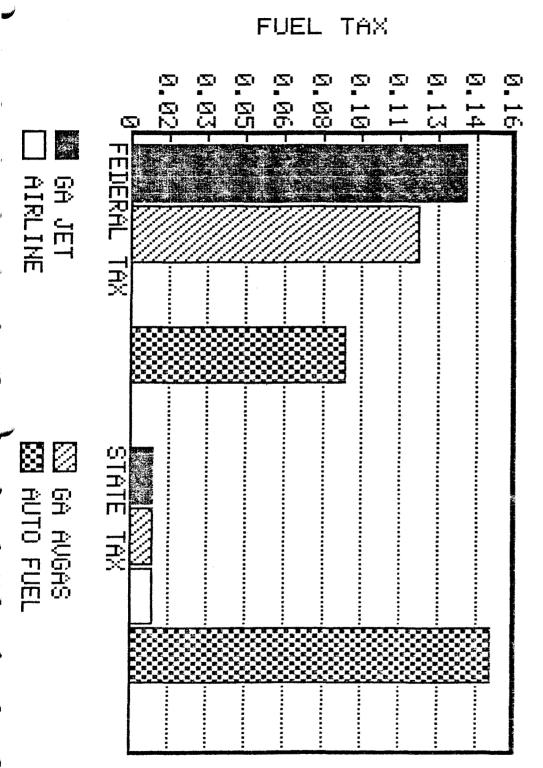
ENTS/GALLON

 		June	May	April	March	Feb.	Jan.	Dec.	Nov.	Oct.	Sept.	August	July		5
\$31,263.89	\$375,166.65	30,594.00	38,612.52	20,450.00	57,478.58	None	31,348.49	27,284.10	47,307.96	17,318.25	33,146.77	33,924.58	\$37,701.40	Fiscal 1975	Exhibit8 HB822 3/12/85 Rep.Schye
\$29,639.90	\$355,678.81	27,854.91	28,239.04	28,683.12	37,207.95	28,365.93	25,615.65	39,548.01	4,547.19	29,992.42	45,612.09	29,640.96	\$31,371.54	Fiscal 1976	Rep.Schye
\$29,378.90	\$352,546.85	28,430.76	26,309.04	36,430.70	22,716.47	20,891.17	42,892.87	14,133.88	31,546.39	44,016.42	18,461.44	35,877.85	\$30,839.05	Fiscal 1977	AERONAUTICS
\$28,405.32	\$340,863.83	21,572.43	28,480.09	26,261.15	23,128.50	23,327.95	27,963.83	27,537.86	27,811.66	29,865.54	36,992.70	33,341.26	\$34,580.86	Fiscal 1978	AERONAUTICS AVIATION FUEL TAX INCOME
\$29,683.52	\$356,202.22	34,695.11	30,000.61	30,902.64	43,040.31	14,840.64	60,751.11	1,652.00	25,222.68	28,855.25	37,413.19	20,641.04	\$28,187.64	Fiscal 1979	TAX INCOME
\$32,017.93	\$384,215.20	31,210.92	26,483.23	29,575.09	42,466.85	10,117.06	30,940.71	48,639.05	14,135.70	30,684.78	61,934.80	20,131.81	\$37,895.20	Fiscal 1980	
\$32,232.38	\$386,788.56	27,251.90	23,806.62	27,120.04	51,198.57	6,131.99	33,206.73	30,218.89	25,694.10	29,101.77	47,934.86	47,934.86	\$37,188.23	Fiscal 1981	(5)
\$27,343.99	\$328,127.82	21,871.18	20,790.63	19,578.15	45,070.38	1,049.35	23,430.33	11,325.06	40,382.40	31,291.11	39,530.16	39,530.16	\$34,278.91	Fiscal 1982	
\$27,098.89	\$325,186.73	\$25,348.19	\$32,144.65	\$17,307.93	\$27,667.31	\$24,560.04	\$30,034.75	\$15,227.78	\$48,020.09	\$25,363.31	\$27,803.95	\$21,061.14	\$30,647.59	Fiscal 1983	
26,766.25	321,194.95	27,139.26	42,005.55	5,524.67	34,627.51	23,283.02	25,853.59	24,444.17	16,370.45	38,800.71	35,117.83	21,177.55	\$ 26,850.64	Fiscal 1984	
27,891.26	195, 238.75						32,267.47	12,306.82	24,018.34	52,515.93	8,710.49	39,349.10	\$ 26,070.64	Fiscal 1985	

Exhibit 9 HB 822 3/12/85 Rep. Schye

ANNUAL REVENUE

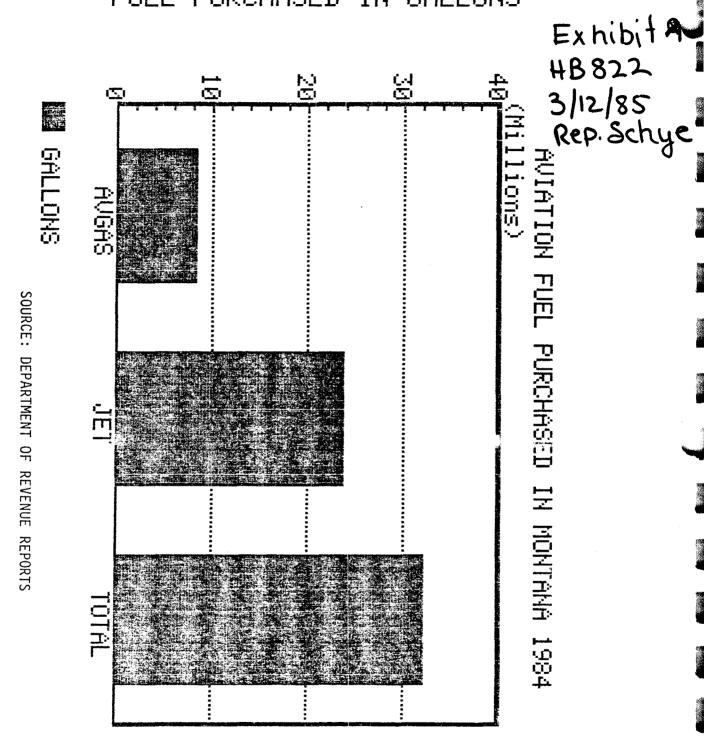




Exhibit#10 HB 822 3/12/85 Rep. Schye

AVIATION US. AUTO FUEL TAX

FUEL PURCHASED IN GALLONS





NAME	AV. GAS	January 185 JET FUEL	TOTAL GALLONS	DATE
Beacon Carter Service	9,000		9,000	12/84
City Service (Kalispell)	24,532	19,099	43,631	12/84
Conoco Inc.	10,501	487,040	497,541	12/84
Exxon Corporation Exxon Corporation	137,001 97,000	647,515 815,531	784,516 942,531	11/84
Hendrickson Oil Co.	212		212	12/84
rel Exxon Service	2,185		2,185	12/84
Montana Refining	330,360	528,259	858,619	12/84
Phillips Petroleum	34,718		34,718	12/84
RMT Properties	17,002	19,701	36,703	12/84
Shucks Gas & Oil	6,500		6,500	12/84
Valley Oil Company		8,000	8,000	12/84
Gasoline Used as Aviation	2,591		2,591	12/84
TOTAL GALLONS				
(:	671,602	2,555,145		

Aviation Gasoline

Please return the enclosed copy of this report to Motor Fuels Tax Division, Mitchell Bldg, Helena, MT to the attention of Mr. Norris Nichols, Administrator.

Aeronautics Allocation

Total Gallons Av. Gas & Jet Fuel

3,226,747

\$32,267.47

Signed Mulicipality

Air Transport Association ata



OF AMERICA

Daniel Z. Henkint Vice President — Public Information

1709 New York Avenue, NW-Washington, DC 20006 Phone (202) 626-4300

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Exhibit 1 HB8ZZ 3/12/85 Rep. Schy

AIRLINE PASSENGER TRAFFIC SCORES RECORD IN JANUARY

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20 — The U.S. airlines set a January traffic record of more than 20.4 billion revenue passenger miles, a 10.1 percent gain over the same month last year, the Air Transport Association said today.

A passenger mile represents one passenger flown one mile. The previous January record occurred with more than 18.5 billion passenger miles produced in the first month of 1984.

Domestic passenger traffic in January, 1985, rose 10.9 percent. The load factor was 54.3 percent, up from 52.3 percent in January of last year.

International passenger traffic in January was up 6 percent. Load factor was 59.4 percent, up from 57.9 percent in January, 1984.

The total passenger load factor in January, including both domestic and international, rose to 55.0 percent from 53.1 percent in the same month a year earlier. Available seat miles were up 6.3 percent.

RECEIVED

FEB 2 5 1985

MONTANA AERONAUTICS DIVISION HELENA, MONTANA

#7 2/20/85



PRELIMINARY PASSENGER TRAFFIC STATISTICS U.S. SCHEDULED AIRLINE INDUSTRY

JANUARY 1985 - 1984

		RPM'S (000)	ASM'S (000)	LOAD FACTOR
DOMESTIC	85 84	17,230,671 15,538,764	31,730,850 29,705,412	54.3 52.3
PERCENT CHANGE		10.9	6.8	
INTERNATIONAL	85 84	3,218,309 3,036,618	5,420,145 5,247,740	59.4 57.9
PERCENT CHANGE		6.0	3.3	
TOTAL	85 84	20,448,980 18,575,382	37,150,995 34,953,152	55.0 53.1
PERCENT CHANGE		10.1	6.3	

CARRIERS INCLUDED: AMERICAN, DELTA, EASTERN, NORTHWEST (DOMESTIC ONLY),

PAN AM, PIEDMONT, REPUBLIC, TRANS WORLD, UNITED,

USAIR, WESTERN, AIRCAL, ALASKA, ALOHA, BRANIFF, FRONTIER,

HAWAIIAN, MIDWAY, OZARK, AND PSA.

The following facts and figures were taken from Northwest Airlines brochure which was distributed to the 1983 legislature, "Northwest Orient and the Montana Community":

Boardings in Montana in 1982	328,000	
Assumed (very conservative) average ticket cost	X \$350**	
GROSS INCOME TO NORTHWES	ST IN 1982 - MONTANA ONLY	\$114,800,000
•		
Taxes Paid User Fees Paid	\$ 340,000 764,000	
Fuel Purchased Employee Payroll Supplies Purchased	842,000 2,800,000 2,700,000	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES TO OF	PERATE IN MONTANA	7,446,000
NET TAKEN OUT OF	ΜΟΝΤΔΝΔ	\$107,354,000

**Only an estimate - not included in brochure

Exhibit 14 HB 822 3/12/85 Rep. Schye

FRONTIER AIRLINES BILLINGS TO MISSOULA

EQUIPMENT - Boeing 737-200

SEATS - 107

TRIP TIME - 55 minutes (.92 Block hour) 1

FUEL BURN - 690 gallons²

INCREASED COST OF TRIP WITH \$.02/GALLON INCREASE - \$13.80

INCREASED COST PER SEAT, BILLINGS TO MISSOULA - \$0.13

NORTHWEST AIRLINES BILLINGS TO MISSOULA

EQUIPMENT - Boeing 727-200

SEATS - 120

TRIP TIME - 1 Hour, 15 minutes (1.25 Block hour) 3

FUEL BURN - 1,480 gallons 4

INCREASED COST OF TRIP WITH \$0.02/GALLON INCREASE - \$29.60

INCREASED COST PER SEAT, BILLINGS TO MISSOULA - \$0.25

¹Block Time obtained from Billings Operations Personnel

²Fuel burn computed based on 750 gallons/hour as based on United Airlines System Average provided in <u>AIR TRANSPORT WORLD</u>, February, 1985. Figure prepared by AVMARK, Inc. from the I.P. Sharp C.A.B. form 41 Database.

³Block Time obtained from System Timetable of Northwest Airlines, effective 10/28/84

⁴Fuel burn per block hour obtained from Northwest Airlines

Exhibit 15 HB 822 MONTANA PUBLIC USE AIRPORTS 3/12/85 1985 UPDATE Rep. Schye

		_	
Anaconda	NASP	Drummond	
Ashland *	NASP	Dutton	Future NASP
Augusta		East Poplar	
Babb		Ekalaka /1	NASP
Baker	NASP	Ennis-Big Sky /1	NACD
Belle Creek		Ennis-Sportsman /1	NASP
Benchmark	NASP	Eureka	NASP
Big Fork	Future NASP	Fairfield	
Big Sandy	NASP	Fairview	
Big Timber	NASP	Forsyth	NASP
Billings	NASP	Fort Benton	NASP
Boulder		Fortine *	
Bozeman	NASP	Gardiner	NASP
Brady *		Geraldine	
Bridger	Future NASP	Glasgow	NASP
Broadus	NASP	Glendive	NASP
Browning		Great Falls	NASP
Butte	NASP	Hamilton	NASP
Chester	NASP	Hardin	NASP
Chinook	NASP	Harlen	NASP
Choteau	NASP	Harlowton	NASP
Circle	NASP	Havre	NASP
Clinton	1	Helena	NASP
Colstrip	NASP	Hinsdale	
Columbus	NASP	Hogeland	
Condon		Hot Springs	
Conrad	NASP	Hysham	Future NASP
Culbertson	NASP	Jackson	
Cut Bank	NASP	Jordan	NASP
Deer Lodge	NASP	Kalispell-City	Future NASP
Dell		Kalispell-GPIA	NASP
Denton		Laurel	NASP
Dillon	NASP	Lavina	

Del Bonita

MONTANA PUBLIC USE AIRPORTS 1985 UPDATE

Lewistown	NASP	Spotted Bear	
Libby	NASP	Stanford	NASP
Lincoln	NASP	Stevensville	NASP
Livingston	NASP	Sunburst	
Malta	NASP	Superior	NASP
Meadow Creek		Sweetgrass	
Medicine Lake		Terry	NASP
Miles City	NASP	Thompson Falls	NASP
Missoula	NASP	Three Forks	NASP
Morgan		Tiber Dam	
Opheim		Townsend	NASP
Philipsburg	NASP	Townsend-Canyon	erry
Plains	NASP	Troy	
Plentywood	NASP	Turner	NASP
Polson	NASP	Twin Bridges	NASP
Poplar	NASP	Valier	NASP
Red Lodge	NASP	West Yellowstone	NASP
Richey		Whitefish	
Ronan	NASP	White Sulphur Spri	ngs NASP
Roundup	NASP	Wilsall	
Ryegate		Winifred	NASP
St. Ignatius		Wisdom	
Scobey	NASP	Wolf Creek	
Schafer		Wolf Point	NASP
Seeley Lake			
Shelby	NASP	116 Total Airports	
Sidney	NASP	70 NASP	
		41 Non NASP	
		5 Future NASP	

NASP-National Airport System Plan

<u>/1</u> Ennis NASP qualified, location undetermined

* Indicates privately owned, opened to public

Amendments to HB 822:

1. Title, line 5. Following: "FUEL"
Insert: "FOR ALL PURCHASERS EXCEPT AIR CARRIERS"

2. Page 1, line 17.
Following: "1 eent"

Strike: "3 cents for each gallon of aviation gasoline, which"
Insert: ": (a) 1 cent for each gallon of aviation gasoline sold
to an air carrier certificated under sections 401 and 418 of
the Federal Aviation Act of 1958 (49 U.S.C. 1371 and 1388)
as that act reads on July 1, 1985.

(b) 3 cents for each gallon of aviation gasoline sold to all other purchasers.

(c) The tax"

3. Page 2, line 21.
Following: "eent"
Strike: "3 cents"

4. Page 5, line 6.
Following: "gallon"
Insert: "collected under subsection (1) (b)"

Gir Concern

Exhibit 17 HB 822 3/12/85 Wheeler

Mr. Chairman, Members of the Committee

March 12, 1985

STATEMENT OF STEVEN D. WHEELER REPRESENTING NORTHWEST AIRLINES AND OTHER MAJOR AIRLINES SERVING MONTANA

My name is Steven D. Wheeler. I am the Corporate Secretary and Counsel for Northwest Airlines and the designated Air Transport Association public affairs coordinator for Western Airlines, Frontier Airlines and United Airlines.

My purpose is to express the opposition of the major airlines to HB 822 which would increase the aviation fuel tax by 2¢ per gallon.

Airline - Montana Partnership

The airlines view their relationship with Montana as a partnership--by which both will grow and benefit. In all partnerships each partner makes a certain contribution.

Contributions to Montana by Major Airlines

- 1. Provide needed important air service to passengers and shippers to and from the other states and the world thus promoting the economic development of the State.
 - 2. Provide employment to hundreds of Montana citizens.
 - 3. Purchase goods and services from Montana businesses.
- 4. Pay state and local taxes and pay landing and rental fees to airports used by the airlines. In 1984 the major airlines paid over \$4,700,000 in these areas, including \$1,377,498 in taxes.
- 5. Provide funds and services to promote tourism in the State. In 1984-5 Northwest contributed over \$100,000 to co-sponsor tourism brochures and transport Montana tourism officials and tour operators on sales blitzes to numerous U.S. cities. In 1984 alone Northwest spent almost \$500,000 on advertisements promoting Montana destinations.

Airline Reasons for Opposing Aviation Fuel Tax Increase

1. Major Airport Funding.

The funds raised by the tax are not necessary to support the airports facilities used by the major airlines. If there is a need for funds at the larger airports the mechanism already exists to determine the extent of need for funds and method of payment associated with necessary airport development

and maintenance. This mechanism is the negotiation process of give and take based on justification and accountability between the airport and airlines. This process has met the needs of major airports in Montana and the rest of the U. S. for many years.

2. Smaller Airport Funding

Following the principle that those who use and benefit should pay for their privileges the funding of airports not served by airlines should not be paid for by airlines. Exactly which users and beneficiaries of the smaller airports should share in the costs should be left to the users and governmental interests involved.

- The Long Range Planning Committee is currently considering H. B. 224 which would provide \$1.7 million to support the very goals of HB 822. It is the sequel to a very successful bill passed in the last session for \$1.3 million. Under HB 224 bonds would be sold. The funds raised would be loaned to airports to use as matching funds needed to obtain federal Airport Improvement Program funds of approximately \$15.3 million. The airports would repay the loans. These repayments would retire the bonds. If loans were made to airports served by airlines the airport officials would require the airlines to pay their share of the loan through landing fees and rental charges. The current bill (HB 822) seems to be redundant.
- 4. The effect of HB 822 is <u>unfair</u>, <u>inequitable</u>, and <u>arbitrary</u>:
- a. The tax is $\underline{\text{unfair}}$ because it would substantially increase the dollar cost and represents a $\underline{200\$}$ increase in the current tax.
- b. The tax is <u>inequitable</u> because it taxes airlines without offering a corresponding benefit.
- c. The tax is arbitrary because it is unrelated to the needs of any particular airport since it is based on fuel flowage.
- 5. The tax may result in <u>double</u> taxation of the airlines since almost 60% of the funding of the trust fund would be paid by the airline and airports could require the airlines to repay all loans (with interest) to the airport from the fund.

Summary--one of the basic premises of a healthy partnership is that each partner be treated fairly. Currently the airlines pay their share plus contributing to the Division of Aeronautics, tourism, etc. We ask only to be treated fairly in the future. To that end we request that this unfair tax increase not be adopted.

TESTIMONY OF FRONTIER AIRLINES

Mr. Chairman, Members of the Committee. My name is Carol Luther and I am the Manager of Public Affairs for Frontier Airlines. Frontier Airlines is a proud company with loyal employees. We've been in business since 1936, and today we are fighting for our life.

That is the reality. I am not seeking sympathy here this morning, because the employees have come up with a plan to buy Frontier through an Employee Stock Ownership Plan in an attempt to save ourselves. Our parent company has made it clear that our profit (or more accurately, our <u>losses</u>) have made us a liability, and they <u>want</u> to sell and they would prefer to shut us down,—sell the planes, put 5,300 people out of work and protect their shareholders interest. That is the reality, and those are the corporate breaks. We're doing everything in our power to keep Frontier flying—but we have our work cut out for us.

I am here to make this committee aware that increases in our cost of doing business <u>must</u> be carefully analyzed by our planners and projected forward—not with the goal of increasing our profits—but with the much more somber goal of (1) staying in business and (2) staying in business in Montana.

I know that in order for the employees to get the necessary financing, Frontier will provide a new Business Plan for the investors and banks. This plan, by definition, will have to change and grow to accommodate the kind of company we become.



If we are successful in buying our company thru an Employee Stock Ownership Plan, we will reevaluate our costs, route system and entire way of doing business. We want to stay in business. We want to succeed with you in Montana.

If deregulation of the airlines forced the carriers to compete, which it did, it would seem to follow that states and cities of this country would have to do some competing of their own to attract and keep carriers who do not have to serve any market anymore.

That is Frontier's sense of reality. HB 822 flies in the face of my theory of competition and prohibitive costs. Frontier Airlines asks for your support in defeat of this bill.

Thank you.

Exhibit 19 HB 822 3/12/85 Stinson, Marcy

Mr. Chairman and Committee Members:

My name is Marcy Stinson and I am employed by Montana Refining Company in Great Falls. We are a small refinery marketing several products one of which is Jet-A fuel.

This proposed \$0.02 tax increase would make Montana Refining Company non-competitive and force us to reduce our Jet-A price. To further my point, I would ask that you refer to the fuel summary handout.

Montana produced fuel at the Billings Refinery would cost:

However, MOntana produced fuel placed in the pipeline at Billings and shipped to Spokane would cost:

The difference in the Jet-A fuel is \$0.01543. Over \$0.15 cheaper in Spokane, Washington for Montana produced fuel.

Montana Refining Company does <u>not</u> have a direct pipeline to Spokane. Our to only option is/sell the fuel in KW Great Falls and absorb the loss.

Our refinery is having financial problems and our overall profits are marginal at best. HB 822 would reduce our profitability at least \$100,000 annually. Montana Refinery wants to remain in business in Montana, and urges opposition to this bill.

(i)

	EXAMPLE:	100%	ο _ο ο	21.5%	Percent 12.5% 1 %
Total	Billings cost airport freight Montana tax				
\$1.			JET-A	JP-4	AV GAS
\$1.03833	\$1.00 .00833 .03	32,114,869	20,896,075	7,053,070	Gallons 4,162,009 .4,715
Total	cost pipeline	100%	57%	22%	21%
\$1.0229	Spokane \$1.00 freight .0229		AIRLINES	MILITARY	GENERAL AVIATION .
	Billings cost \$1.03833 Spokane cost 1.0229 Difference \$.01543	1,394,596 Fed. Exp 32,114,869		7,053,071	6,646,803

With the fuel tax, Spokane has a competive cost advantage of 1.543 cents per gallon over the Billings airport.

Effective June 1, 1984

Yellowstone Pipe Line Company

Local Tariff Applying On Petroleum Products

Subject to the Rules and Regulations Named Herein

Shipping cost per gallon

From	То	Rate in Cents per Barrel of 42 United States Gallons	cei
	Spokane, Washington	♦93.5	. 0
	* Hillyard, Washington	♦ 94.5	
Billings, Montana	⚠Spokane International Airport *Spokane County, Washington	♦96	.0
	*Fairchild Air Force Base, Washington	♦ 97	
	* Moses Lake, Washington	① ♦108	.0
	▲ *Grant County Airport, Washington	♦ 109.5	
Applies on Commercial Jet Fue	el only.	-1	-
*Note Special Facilities Require	d in Section 10, Page 3, of This Tariff.		
①Rate includes truck loading fro	om shipper's tanks and incidental billing and clerical wo	rk.	
♦ Denotes increase.			
	Its in neither increase nor reduction in charges.		-

Issued by

A J. R. Walsh, Vice President
Yellowstone Pipe Line Company
P.O. Box 2197
Houston, Texas 77252

Issued May 1, 1984

Exh.bit 21 HB 822 3/12/85 Stanley

Mr. Chamman & member of the Committee: my none is Jamy Stanley. I have been employed

have been in management. I have been a resident of montaina since 1947.

I am currently the automor Service Monager in Helma and Butte. I am responsible for all activities in Butte and Helena that have anything to do with Western aulines and have a Total stoff of 22 people.

for being against House Riel 822.

My reasons for being against House Bill 822 Lor any other legislation that would increase the Commercial audines cost of serving montana) are as follows. are as follows.

Of the commercial arlines currently contribute about 5770 of the mones used to support the morisma aeronanties through the current arrotion Full Tax For the fuel tax revenue currently said to the State of mortana, the aulines and our customers receive nothing in return.

The state ment has been made in post bigislatures that the airlines merely pass on any costs to our customers. This statement has no relidity for if it were true, every employee at western airlines would not have had to make wage and salary concessions. In my case, I have worked for 12.5% less salary since Dec 1981 and I have increased my productivity by 100% (I manage 2 stations rather than 1). I also have not had any wage increases of any bind since the fall of 1980.

all of my employees have taken wage cuts of 22 % and in as ased their productivity by 8%. There are no wage in creases likely for any of us in the fore seeable future.

The statement, that all costs are possed on to the customer is simply not true, for if it were, our employees would not have hed to make the sacrificies mentioned above, nor would then be any airlines losing money. Our employees should not be asked to subadings our company's more asal cost of long business in mortana.

arlines cost of doing human in mortona by one \$250,000 a year and House Bill 822 will take approximately \$91,000 more a year from western arlines in increased furtages, which means that 30% of what our employees have given up will go directly to the State of Mortana.

Thank you.

MR. CHAIRMAN : MENBERS OF THE COMMITTEE

MY NAME IS ARDEN SMITH. JAN EMPLOYED BY

NORTH WEST HIRINES IN HELENA, MONTANA, JAM

EMPLOYED AS A TRANSFORTATION AGENT. I WAVE

BEEN IN THIS UNDACITY FOR 24 YEARS. I WAS BORN

HND RHISED IN THE STATE OF MONTANA. I WAS

AWAY FROM THE STATE FOR SEDERAL YEARS AS A

NAMY UPTERAN HND AFTER EMPLOYMENT WITH

NORTHWEST AIRLINES, WHICH TOOK HE TO ANCHORAGE

HLASKA FOR 3 YEARS AND THEN TO SEATTLE,

WHISHINGTON FOR 7 YEARS, I FINALLY RETURNED

TO HELENA, WHERE I WISH TO STAY. I FEEL THAT

FAM A HONTANA NATIVE AND TAM VERY CONCERNED

ABOUT THE EVENTS AND HAPPENINGS IN THIS STATE.

BESIDES MY EMPLOYMENT WITH NORTHWEST

AIRLINES, IAM THE LOCAL CHAIRMAN FOR THE

BROTHERHOOD OF RAILWAY AND AIRLINE CLERKS,

AIRTRANSPORT DIVISION, AFL-CIO, FOR THE STATE

OF HONTANA, REPRESENTING EMPLOYEES IN THE

TRANSPORTATION FIELD ON NORTHWEST AIRLINES.

MY DUTIES VARY FROM INTERPRETING CONTRACT LANGUAGE

FILING GRIENANCES, IF NEEDED, AND A FAIR WORKING

ROUTINE BETWEEN THE COMPANY ALL EMPLOYEES.

not 4.

WITH THIS IN MIND, I AM HERE TO TESTIFY IN OPPOSITION TO AB822. I FEEL THAT THE ADDED INCREASE IN COST TO THE COMMERCIAL CARRIERS IS NOT NEEDED, NOR JUSTIFIED. IT SEEMS, ALSO, THAT THERE IS NO APPARENT BENEFIT TO THE PRINCIPAL PAYERS. I AM JERY CONCERNED AS AN EMPLOYEE OF NORTHWEST AIRLINES, WHAT THIS BILL COULD DO TO MY EMPLOYMENT, AS FAR AS STAYING IN HONTANA, WHERE I WOULD PREFER TO STAY, AND AS A UNION REPRESENTATIVE WHAT THE DIVERSE EFFECT WOULD BE ON OUR EmployER, AND SuployERS I REPRESENT. THERE IS ALSO A VERY GREAT POSSIBILITY, THAT OUR EMPloyER, COULD CURTAIL FLIGHT PATTERNS AND SCHEDULES, THIS IN EFFECT COULD BRING ABOUT LAYOFFS FOR EMPLOYEES OR POSSIBLE STATION CLOSURES. IF THESE YOSSIBILITY'S WERE TO HAPPEN, THE STATE OF MONTANA COULD STAND TO LOSE A VERY NEEDED MONEY INCOME FROM THE EMPloyEES INVOLUED, WAGES AND TAXES SPENT IN THIS STATE, ALSO LOST TAXES,

I THEREFORE WHIE OPPOSITION TO HB 822.

LANDING FEES AND RENT, PAID BY COMMERCIAL CARRIERS.

TAXES AND FEES PAID BY MAJOR AIRLINES IN MONTANA DURING CALENDAR YEAR 1984

FORM OF TAXES OR FEES	NORTHWEST	FRONTIER	WESTERN	UNITED*
Corporate License Tax	\$ 56,200	\$ 50	\$ 50	\$ 99,000(e)
Property Tax	429,344	333,349	226,716	40
Unemployment	32,290	22,000	12,000	4,460
Fuel Tax	62,435	46,514	45,800	7,150
	\$ 580,269	\$ 401,913	\$ 284,566	\$110,650
Landing Fees	\$ 660,537	\$ 508,256	\$ 508,496	\$ 72,509
Rentals	632,565	392,769	466,757	128,070
	\$1,293,102	\$ 901,025	\$ 975,253	\$199,579
Grand Total	\$1,873,371	\$1,302,938	\$1,259,819	\$310,229
, 4 Airline Total		\$4,746,357		

^{*} These figures represent only a partial year's operations as United started service to Montana during 1984. United estimates that some of these figures (especially property and fuel tax and landing fees and rents) will be substantially increased for full year 1985.

Eyhibit 23 HB 652 3/12/45 Switzen

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS House Bill No. 652 Second Reading (Yellow) Copy

1. Page 3, line 23.
Following: ";"
Insert: "and"

2. Pages 3 and 4.
Following: "reclamation" on line 24 of page 3
Strike: the remainder of line 24 through "processes" on

line 4 of page 4

3. Page 5, line 20. Following: "reclamation"
Strike: the remainder of line 20 through "processes" on line 25

4. Page 6.
Following: "mine" on line 16
Strike: the remainder of line 16 through "thereto" on line
19

STATE OF MONTANA

FISCAL NOTE

REQUEST NO. FNN338-85 (Amended)

Form BD-15

In compliance with a written request received March 8, 19 85, there is hereby submitted a Fiscal Note for H.B. 652 (Amended) pursuant to Title 5, Chapter 4, Part 2 of the Montana Code Annotated (MCA). Background information used in developing this Fiscal Note is available from the Office of Budget and Program Planning, to members of the Legislature upon request.

DESCRIPTION

An act to allow the deduction of certain costs from the net proceeds tax on mines applicable to nonmetallic mines and mining claims; amending sections 15-23-502 and 15-23-503, MCA; and providing an applicability date.

FISCAL IMPACT

There will be no impact during the 86-87 biennium because the act is applicable to tax years beginning after December 31, 1985.

The amended bill permits an additional deduction for reclamation costs. Such costs and their potential timing cannot be estimated within the time frame allowed for the completion of this note so a precise estimate of the fiscal impact cannot be given. One index of the amount involved is the value of reclamation bonds for nonmetallic mines. According to Department of State Lands records, there are approximately \$2.8M in reclamation bonds for such mines. In general, the value of reclamation bonds underestimates the actual cost of reclamation.

Exhibit 2 H8 652 3/12/F5 Switzer

BUDGET DIRECTOR

Office of Budget and Program Planning

Date:

12, 1985

(24)

TAXATION COMMITTEE

BILL NO. HOUSE BILL 822	DATE <u>March 12, 19</u>	985	
SPONSOR REPRESENTATIVE SCHY	<u>E</u>		
NAME (please print)	RESIDENCE	SUPPORT	OPPOSE
JAMES T MULAR	BRAC BUHE		X
-120EN R. SMITH	BRAC-NUA HLN		X
Les LOBLE I	Wordhwes + Ar Lines		X
Carol Luther	Fronteir Cerlinis		X
StevenHerreder	horthwest airlines		X
1/ / Halmone	Great Falls		X
Maren Stinson	Belt		X
Kenneth Curtis	Heleni		X
Marilen Lewes	Mt Flying Frimes	X	
Janua & Leuris	Mit Flying Farmers	X	
1.1			

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

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

	COMMITTEE		
BILL NO. HB 82~	DATE		
NAME (please print)	RESIDENCE	SUPPORT	OPPOSE
Firey D. MARSHALL Sum Hilbard	BIGSKY AIRLINES BILLINGS Commerce		X
			_

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

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

BILL NO.	HOUSE BILL 735	DATE	March 12, 1985
SPONSOR	REPRESENTATIVE SPAETH		

TAXATION COMMITTEE

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

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH SECRETARY.

	(DATE
COMMITTEE	ON	

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