## MINUTES

## MONTANA SENATE <br> 52nd LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION <br> COMMITTEE ON TAXATION

Call to Order: By Senator Mike Halligan, on February 22, 1991, at 8:00 a.m.

## ROLL CALL

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Members Present:
    Mike Halligan, Chairman (D)
    Dorothy Eck, Vice Chairman (D)
    Robert Brown (R)
    Steve Doherty (D)
    Delwyn Gage (R)
    John Harp (R)
    Francis Koehnke (D)
    Gene Thayer (R)
    Thomas Towe (D)
    Van Valkenburg (D)
    Bill Yellowtail (D)
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Members Excused: None
Staff Present: Jeff Martin (Legislative Council).
Please Note: These are summary minutes. Testimony and
discussion are paraphrased and condensed.

Announcements/Discussion: None

## HEARING ON SENATE BILL 359

## Presentation and Opening Statement by Sponsor:

Senator Nathe, District 10 , said the bill creates a $\$ 5000$ a year credit on income taxes for physicians who practice in a rural area. The credit would apply for three successive years. He noted there are 18 counties in Montana without obstetric services.

## Proponents' Testimony:

Bob Frazier, Project Consultant, Governor's Health Care Committee, submitted a portion of the report from the Health Care

Committee (Exhibit \#l). He said states are rated in five categories in terms of health services. He reviewed Montana's standing in that rating:

1. 3rd in lifestyle
2. l2th in number of people with disabling conditions
3. 7th in disease
4. l6th in mortality
5. 4lst in access to care

Jerry Loendorf, Montana Medical Association, said there are 18 counties without physicians in Montana and that number will continue to increase. He said even the areas like Kalispell, which have recreational and community access, cannot attract new doctors. He noted a new doctor, fresh from college, can make a great deal more in a larger area than do the three obstetricians who have been practicing in Kalispell for thirty years.

He said people in rural Montana have no access to emergency care at all and must travel substantial distances to access regular medical care. The associated costs (travel, food, lodging, days off work) of medical care then rise also. He said the bill extends an incentive to help rural communities attract doctors and also ends the incentive after three years.

Tom Cherry, Montana Hospital Association, Manpower Project Coordinator, said conventional inducements are not working. He supported the bill but asked that it be amended to extend the incentive for 10 years as they do in Oregon.

Jack Noble, Board of Regents, Deputy Commissioner for Management and Fiscal Affairs, expressed support for the bill. He noted the Regents will be sponsoring legislation offering a loan repayment program for physicians which will fit in nicely with this legislation.

Opponents' Testimony:
There were no opponents.

## Questions From Committee Members:

Senator Gage suggested amending the bill to require the repayment of the $\$ 15,000$ if the doctor leaves the state the fourth year, $\$ 10,000$ if they leave the fifth year, and $\$ 5,000$ if they leave the sixth year. If they stay more than six years they keep the whole credit. This would create an incentive for longevity.

Senator Noble said that was fine with him.
Senator Van Valkenburg asked Mr. Noble about a proposed surtax on Wiche-Wami students.

Mr. Noble said considerable funding has been removed from the Wiche-Wami fund and there will be no slots open this year and only 3 open the following year. The Regents are proposing an 8\% tuition surcharge on students entering the field of medicine in the year 1992. A certain percentage of that would be placed in a trust, the proceeds of which would be used to contract with physicians with outstanding educational loans to return to Montana and practice in a rural area. The loans would be repaid in an accelerating manner.

Senator Van Valkenburg asked if other medical professionals would demand a $\$ 5000$ incentive if one were offered only to the doctor.

Senator Nathe replied if the primary health provider is not in the community, the rest will not be employed anyway. He said the doctor is the primary provider and all nursing and support services depend on his presence in the community.

## Closing by Sponsor:

Senator Nathe closed said this is part of a three-prong package of bills to improve provision of health care to rural Montana. Increasing the medicaid reimbursement rate for obstetrical and pediatric services is a necessary component and with the provisions of this bill in place Montana can begin to attract the services it needs for its rural communities.

## HEARING ON SENATE BILL 428

## Presentation and Opening Statement by Sponsor:

Senator Nathe, District lo, said the bill addresses the allocation of gasoline taxes back to Indian reservations in the state and the issue of sovereignty between the seven reservations and the state. He presented proposed amendments which would ensure that the state is not having its right to tax preempted (Exhibit \#2). He said the bill is an attempt to avoid confrontation and litigation over the allocation of taxes. He said the distribution is based on population and miles of paved and gravel roads on the reservations that are maintained by the tribes or BIA.

## Proponents' Testimony:

Raymond White Tail Feather, Tribal Councilman, Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes, presented his testimony in support of the bill (Exhibit \#3).

## Opponents' Testimony:

Jim Halverson, Roosevelt County, presented his testimony in opposition to the bill (Exhibit \#4).

Bill Salsbury, Montana Highway Department, said there is a constitutional question as to the use of the funds for public roads. He said the highway trust fund is declining and bills of this sort just decrease it further. The fiscal impact is approximately $\$ 500,000$ which would match approximately $\$ 2$ million in federal aid.

## Questions From Committee Members:

In response to a question from Senator Yellowtail, Mr. Chambers, Legal Counsel for the Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes, said he felt the tribes could sell gasoline within the borders of the reservation without the application of the state gas tax based on precedent. The problem with the formula in the bill is that instead of $\$ 200,000$ which the Fort Peck reservation members pay per year in gas sales tax, the tribe would get about $\$ 15,000$. The mileage base would vary from reservation to reservation. He said there may need to be varying formulas but that would have to be up to DOR to work out. He said if the central machinery case precedent were to apply, the gas station would have to be owned by the tribe, not an individual. The bill gives the tribe an incentive to impose a tribal tax that would be the same as the state tax.

Senator Eck asked if it would be wise to include in the bill the provision that tribes have to use gas tax money for road maintenance.

Mr. Chambers encouraged the committee to allow the tribes to negotiate that provision as some tribes just may not have to spend that much on road maintenance.

Senator Eck asked if there needed to the a $3 / 5$ vote on this provision by the legislature.

Mr. Chambers said constitutional law is not his specialty but it sounds like it may have to meet the $3 / 5$ vote.

Mr. Woodgerd, Legal Counsel, DOR, replied the state can enter into an agreement but the problem is diversion of funds. He said the amendments clarify that neither the state nor the
tribes are giving up any of their rights. He felt if the tax is a tribal tax and imposed by the tribe it would not be a constitutional formula allocation issue. If the tribe applies it, they spend it.

## Closing by Sponsor:

Senator Nathe closed by saying this is a complex issue and it needs to be addressed in order to avoid extended litigation.

## HEARING ON SENATE BILL 354

## Presentation and Opening Statement by Sponsor:

Senator Gage, District 5 , said the bill clarifies the net operating loss provision regarding a merger or consolidation would only apply to Montana corporations.

## Proponents' Testimony:

Denis Adams, Director, DOR, said the bill is intended to bring state law into conformity with the Internal Revenue Code regarding mergers. The surviving corporations would be able to deduct some of their pre-merger net operating losses.

John Cadby, Montana Bankers Association, said his group favors being able to carry forward loss deductions. He said he did not understand why financial institutions are singled out and denied the privilege. He urged the committee to include banks in the provisions of the bill.

Tucker Hill, Champion International, expressed support for the bill in that it clarifies how losses can be adjusted to the tax liability of the corporation.

Opponents' Testimony:
There were no opponents.

## Questions From Committee Members:

Mr. Adams said, in response to a question from Senator Thayer, that the parent company would have to have the net operating loss, not the company they acquired. The intent is to let one of the net operating losses survive.

Senator Halligan wondered if the fiscal note could be reduced by dealing with specific areas.

Mr. Adams said DOR has not had enough time to research that question thoroughly, however, he felt it could be reduced somewhat.

Senator Thayer said he thought federal did not allow a net operating loss at all.

Mr. Adams said, under federal law, the surviving corporation can continue to carry its net operating loss forward. There are, however, real restrictions when the operating losses are acquired through the merged corporations.

Senator Towe expressed some concern with the ambiguity between a true merger and a surviving corporation.

## Closing by Sponsor:

Senator Gage said he did not realize the extent of the fiscal impact. He said he would continue to work on the bill to clarify specifics and language.

## HEARING ON SENATE BILL 438

## Presentation and Opening Statement by Sponsor:

Senator Brown, District 2 , said the bill exempts railroad tracks and right-of-way owned by the federal government from the beneficial use tax.

## Proponents' Testimony:

Dave Woodgerd said, in a recent Supreme Court argument, the utilities said the beneficial use tax is discriminatory because there is an exemption for state owned railroads but not for federally owned railroads. He pointed out there is no exemption because there are no federally owned railroads in Montana and therefore it was simply an oversight by the legislature.

## Opponents' Testimony:

Gene Phillips, attorney for one of the Colstrip owners, said the bill really doesn't impact the litigation.

## Questions From Committee Members:

Senator Towe asked if there are any state owned railroads.
Mr. Woodgerd said there are two railroads which the state had to take over and now lease to private companies.

Closing by Sponsor:
Senator Brown closed.

## EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SENATE BILL 438

## Recommendation and Vote:

Senator Gage moved SB 438 Do Pass.
The motion CARRIED with Senators Van Valkenburg, Yellowtail, and Harp absent.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SENATE BILL 354

## Recommendation and Vote:

Senator Towe moved to Table SB 354.
The motion CARRIED unanimously with Senators Van Valkenburg and Harp absent.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SENATE BILL 272

## Discussion:

Senator Thayer presented a statement regarding amendments to SB 272 to the committee (Exhibit \#5).

Senator Halligan asked Mr. Klophoke for his opinion regarding the definition of infrastructure.

Mr. Klophoke said the only definition needed is "infrastructure means sewers, curbs, and gutters".

Senator Thayer said he agreed with Senator Towe that off-street parking facilities and parking lots should be left in the bill.

## Amendments, Discussion, and Votes:

Senator Doherty moved to amend the bill as per Senator Thayer's proposed amendments (as reflected on the attached standing committee report).

The motion CARRIED unanimously with Senator Harp absent.
Senator Towe moved that the word "buildings" be inserted in the definition section.

The motion FAILED with Senators Thayer, Doherty and Towe voting "aye" and Senator Harp absent.

Senator Towe moved to retain the language

## Recommendation and Vote:

Senator Doherty moved SB 272 Do Pass As Amended.
The motion CARRIED unanimously with Senator Harp absent.

## ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment At: 10:00 a.m.


MH/jdr


ROLL CALL
SENATE TAXATION COMMITTEE $j$ LiLd LEGISLATIVE SESSION


Each day attach to minutes.

## STEP 3. EXPAND AVAILABILITY OF PHYSICIANS AND OTHER MEDICAL SERVICES IN RURAL AREAS

## PROBLEM:

Montana is experiencing a loss of physicians, and hospital and provider services in rural areas. Eighteen counties presently function without any physician and twenty-two counties without physiclans who deliver bables. The negative economic and social impact of physician and hospital loss on a rural community includes:

- Lack of access to emergency care:
- Lack of obstetrical/pediatric care;
- Lack of access to care for an aging population (many on fixed incomes) who must travel long distances complicated by disabilities, hearing loss, sight loss, need of a traveling companion, and resulting increased costs for transportation. food, and lodging;
- Loss of revenue base to a community.

Because of the declining number of physicians in Montana in the past decade, our ability to provide adequate perinatal care to women and infants in rural areas has significantly eroded. In fact, Montana has always had problems with care in rural areas. In the 1970's. the National Health Service Corporation Scholarship Program provided 3,300 medical service providers. mostly primary care physicians, assigned to rural areas. Congress ended the scholarship program in 1981 and there are only a few physiclans still practicing in Montana as a result of that program. Over the past decade physicians continued to exodus in mass from rural Montana. Even more have given up obstetrics.

Certainly declining county population has an influence on physician loss. In addition, no single factor may be more important to this loss or exodus than malpractice insurance related problems. Recent statistics provided by the Montana Academy of Family Physicians and the Montana Medical Association clearly illustrate this loss of physician providers. (See Table 4.)

TABLE 4
Montana Counties Without Physicians Who Deliver Babies


In 1990,
22 counties were without physictans who deliver babies

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## Department of Revenue

The purpose of the proposed amendments is to make it clear that the State of Montana is not preempted from applying it's taxes on motor fuels on Indian Reservations. It also makes it clear that the distributors subject to the tribal tax will only pay one tax at the exact same level as they pay on gasoline which is not subject to the tribal tax.

The purpose of the bill is to allow Montana and Indian tribes to apply their motor fuel tax in such a way that the citizens are not subject to dual taxation and to share the revenue collected. The result of both the tribal government and the state government applying their respective taxes will be the collection of the same level of tax on the reservation as off the reservation and the sharing of the revenues on an equitable basis relating to the services provided to citizens on the reservation.

The amendments also set up a special revenue account so that the Department can spend 5\% of the money collected for administration of the tax and disperse the remaining taxes to the tribe.

1. Page 1, line 13

Following: "governments."
Insert: "(1) In order to prevent the possibility of dual taxation of motor fuels purchased by Montana citizens and businesses on Indian reservations, the Department of Revenue and an Indian Tribe may enter into a cooperative agreement. The agreement shall provide that under the conditions specified in this section, the tribe and the state will cooperate to collect only one tax which is at the same level as the tax outside the boundaries of the reservation and share the revenues as provided in this section. The agreement must provide that neither the state or the tribe is forfeiting any legal rights to apply their respective taxes by entering into an agreement except as specifically set forth in the agreement."

Renumber: subsequent subsections
2. Page 1 , lines 19 and 20

Strike: lines 19 and 20 in their entirety
Insert: "is not required to pay both the state and the tribal tax but only one tax to the state which is equal to the tax paid on gasoline which is not subject to a tribal tax."
3. Page 2.

Following: line 15
Insert: "NEW SECTION. Section 2. Special revenue account. (1) There is created a special revenue account to be called the tribal motor fuel tax account.
(2) All taxes collected under [section l] shall be deposited by the department into the tribal motor fuel tax account.
(3) The money in the tribal motor fuel tax account may be

## C.O.CTXATION

expended by the department to administer the tax and toudnciotribute the remaining amount to tribal government.
(4) The appropriation made in subsection (3) is a statutory appropriation as provided in 17-7-502.

Section 3. Section $17-7-502, \mathrm{MCA}$, is amended to read:
'17-7-502. Statutory appropriations - definition - requisites for validity. (1) A statutory appropriation is an appropriation made by permanent law that authorities spending by a state agency without the need for a biennial legislative appropriation or budget amendment.
(2) Except as provided in subsection (4), to be effective, a statutory appropriation must comply with both of the following provisions:
(a) The law containing the statutory authority must be listed in subsection (3).
(b) The law or portion of the law making a statutory appropriation must specifically state that a statutory appropriation is made as provided in this section.
(3) The following laws are the only laws containing appropriations: 2-9-202; 2-17-105, 2-18-812; 10-3-203; 10-3-312; 10-3-314; 10-4-301; 13-37-304; 15-1-111; 15-25-123; 15-31-702; 15-36-112; 15-37-117; 15-70-101; 16-1-404; 16-1-410; 16-1-411; 17-3212; 17-5-404; 17-5-424; 17-5-804; 19-8-504; 19-9-702; 19-9-1007; 19-10-205; 19-10-506; 19-11-512; 19-11-513; 19-11-606; 19-12-301; 19-13-604; 20-6-406; 20-8-111; 20-9-361; 23-5-306; 23-5-409; 23-5-610; 23-5-612; 23-5-1016; 23-5-1027; 27-12-206; 37-51-501; 39-71-2504; 53-6-150; 53-24-206; 61-2-406; 61-5-121; 67-3-205; 75-11101; 75-5-1108; 75-11-313; 76-12-123; 80-2-103; 82-11-136; 82-11161; 90-3-301; 90-4-215; 90-4-613; 90-6-331; 90-9-306; and section 13, House Bill No. 861, Laws of 1985; and [section 2].
(4) There is a statutory appropriation to pay the principal, interest, premiums, and costs of issuing, paying, and securing all bonds, notes, or other obligations, as due, that have been authorized and issued pursuant to the laws of Montana. Agencies that have entered into agreements authorized by the laws of Montana to pay the state treasurer, for deposit in accordance with 17-2-101 through 17-2-107, as determined by the state treasurer, an amount sufficient to pay the principal and interest as due on the bonds or notes have statutory appropriation authority for such payments.'" Renumber: subsequent sections.

Testimony of<br>Raymond White Tail Feather<br>Tribal Councilman<br>Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes<br>of the Fort Peck Reservation<br>on<br>\section*{S.B. 428}<br>Senate Committee on Taxation

February 22, 1991

Chairperson and members of the Committee, I am Raymond White Tail Feather, a member of the Fort Peck Tribal Executive Board. I am pleased to appear here today on behalf of the Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes of the Fort Peck Reservation to discuss S.B. 428 , proposed legislation authorizing the State of Montana to share gasoline tax revenues with Indian tribes in the State.

The Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes very much appreciate the opportunity to testify on this important reform, which we believe is both necessary to comply with federal law, and desirable in forging cooperative and productive relationships between tribal governments and the State of Montana. While the Tribes support the concept of tax sharing, we are unable to support the bill as currently drafted.

Montana has two fuel taxes: (i) a gasoline license tax, M.C.A. 15-70-201, et seg., and (ii) a special fuels use tax M.C.A. 15-70-301, et seq. The gasoline license tax is imposed on the distributor and passed on through the retailer to the customer. The special fuels tax, which falls mainly on diesel fuel, is a straight sales tax, falling on the customer. We are unclear whether S.B. 428 covers the special fuels tax. If it does not, we believe it should be amended to do so.

As matters now stand, both these taxes are imposed on Indians when they buy motor fuel on reservations. The United States Supreme Court has held many times that state taxes cannot be imposed on Indians purchasing goods
on a reservation. E.g., Confederated Colville Tribes v. Washington, 477 U.S. 134 (1980); Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes v. Moe, 425 U.S. 463 (1976). Indians pay over $\$ 200,000$ a year in taxes on the Fort Peck Reservation that we consider are not legally owed under controlling federal law. We understand that the State has a different view of federal law. The credit mechanism in the proposed bill resolves this legal difference and reaches the result we both generally support.

The Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes would agree to enact a tribal gasoline tax and special fuels tax substantially similar to the corresponding state taxes. The Tribes envision that the Department of Revenue would collect the tribal taxes as well as the state taxes, and remit the tribal tax payments to the Tribes, as provided in the proposed bill. Wंe are also agreeable to a deduction for the State's costs of administration. We question whether $5 \%$ is justified. Tax agreements with tribes in South Dakota have specified a $1 \%$ administrative fee.

Our major difficulty with the proposed bill lies in its calculation of how the Tribes and the State would split the taxes collected. We strongly believe that the Assiniboine and Sioux Tribes' share of the total tax revenues should be based solely on the percentage of Indians residing on the Reservation (in relation to total reservation population). Under this concept, every purchaser of motor fuel will pay the same tax -- as at present -- but the Tribes will receive a portion of the tax revenues that corresponds to the Indians buying motor fuel on the reservation. But since we believe these Indians are exempt from state taxes on reservations under federal law,
we submit that the State should not retain any revenues collected from them.

The difference between our concept and the draft bill is that the draft bill would multiply the percentage of enrolled Indians residing on a reservation by the percent of Indian or BIA maintained highway miles (in relation to total highway miles) on a Reservation. The basis for the proposed concept, as we understand it, is that the Indians use the state highways and should therefore be taxed to "pay" for that use. The trouble with this concept is that Indians "use" many state services -- schools, parks, general assistance, to name a few -- but -- the courts have held since the earliest days of the Republic that states cannot tax Indians to pay for services they are legally obligated to provide to them.

This is fair from a number of perspectives. Historically, because Indian tribes surrendered the lands that now form Montana, for a pittance in relation to their true value. Economically, because the State receives large amounts of federal impact aid and other monies because of the federal trust obligation to tribes. Politically, because tribes -- not the State -- are the key governmental units that exercise political authority over Indians on reservations.

I have stressed the legal framework in my testimony, but there is a larger value at stake -- which is forging a successful intergovernmental relationship between the State and the tribal governmental entities within it. Our Tribes have taken the leadership in this endeavor. We are the only tribes, for example, to conclude a water compact with Montana. We recently
established minimum instream flows for all rivers and creeks within our Reservation, which will protect fish and wildlife resources for Indians and non-Indians alike. We devoted our reserved water rights to this purpose, without considering that non-Indians should "pay" us for the benefits they will get from it. Our water compact also establishes a Board to settle any disputes concerning water used by Indians -- which is recognized as within tribal jurisdiction -- and that used by non-Indians under state law and jurisdiction. The Board has one member appointed by the Tribes, one by the State, and one neutral member.

I am discussing this compact because it represents a government-to-government relationship grounded in equality beteen governments, and in mutual respect for the legal rights and jurisdiction of each government, it recognizes that the Tribes regulate Indians on the reservation, while the State regulates non-Indians. With all respect, the proposed tax sharing bill does not do this as now drafted. Instead, it seeks to assert state authority over Indians on our reservation.

We would therefore not be able to conclude a tax sharing agreement with the State on the basis proposed in the bill. One alternative to the state statute and agreement concept we have proposed above, of course, is for the Tribes to sue that State to enjoin its collection of motor fuel taxes from Indians. Another alternative would be for the Tribes to open and operate gasoline retail outlets on the Reservation.

If the Tribes take the first course, we believe we would succeed
in court. If we take the second course, the State's gasoline license tax could not lawfully be imposed on any sales by distributors to those outlets (whether to Indians or non-Indians), so long as the tribal outlets resell the gasoline on the Reservation. This is because the United States Supreme Court of the United States has held that a non-Indian seller outside the reservation who delivers goods purchased by a tribal enterprise for use on the reservation is not liable for state taxes with respect to the on-reservation sales. Central Machinery Co. v. Arizona State Tax Commission, 448 U.S. 160 (1980).

The Tribes would very much like to work out a satisfactory resolution of this problem with Montana. We do not stand just on the law, although our legal rights must be a starting point and cannot be surrendered. We stand on our record of working cooperatively and fairly with the State, on the basis of mutual respect.

We are not insisting that our approach is the only acceptable one. There are seven tribes in Montana. The factual circumstances of each reservation differ. It may be that no single formula should be imposed. Perhaps the bill could leave the State Department of Revenue with discretion to work out an agreement with each tribe, so long as the tribal share did not exceed the percentage the Indian resident population on a reservation bears to all reservation residents. We are open, of course, to constructive dialogue on this matter and to negotiating a fair agreement with the State. We-cannot, however, accept a result that leaves our members paying state taxes they do not owe, or that surrenders jurisdiction to the State we believe it does not legally have.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to appear before you. I should be delighted to answer any questions you may have, and to work with the committee in bringing this concept to life.

As $I$ stand in support of this bill, at no time do I support that Tribal members be exempt from the costs associated with services they are entitled to and receive. Tribal members living on reservations are exempt from State and Local Government taxation with no reimbursement or payment in lieu of taxes to cities and Counties. Schools receive what is known as 874 funds to assist in education, but most other costs are paid for by local taxpayers. Problems such as this and others were created by the Congress of This United States and until such time as they have the guts to address these issues, the double standards, conflicts and misunderstanding will continue. This bill attempts to settle one of these conflicts without their help or interference.

One important thing we must remember here today is that this is not a racial issue, but an economic and governmental issue.

Through this legislation, the State never before having recognized tribal exemption from state taxes, will now be stating that tribal members purchasing gas on their reservations, will be exempt from state gasoline taxes in the form of a refund to their tribal government.

This legislation attempts to refund to the tribes of Montana, in a fair and equitable manner, state tax rate paid by tribal members on gasoline purchased on their reservation.

This legislation will avert costly and lengthly legal action as the courts have historically and continuously supported State and local tax exempt status for tribes and Tribal members on their reservations.

Much thought - debate and consideration has been put into a fair and equitable system to refund in proportion to what has been collected.

This bill basically uses the same formula used in distribution to cities and Counties.

Enclosed will find instructional letter, distribution figures and report forms used by Cities and Counties.

Counties and Cities are required to used these funds for the maintenance and repair of Public roads - streets - alleys.

Though it may vary slightly in other County-Reservation areas, Roosevelt County maintains virtually all public roads except for approximately 150 miles of B.I.A. system maintained by the Federal Bureau of Indian Affairs. Some private roads and accesses are maintained by the Tribe for Tribal members.

I ask that this committee reject any attempt to create an unfair or inequitable refund system or formula.

Refunds made because of tax exempt status, must be made at the amount equal to the amount collected no less and certainly no more.

JAMES HALVERSON
ROOSEVELT COUNTY COMMISSIONER

May 18, 1990

Board of County Commissioners
Roosevelt County Courthouse
Wolf Point, MT 59201

Subject: Allocation of Gas Tax Revenue for Fiscal Year (FY) 1991

The attached table reflects the allocation of gas tax funds for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 1990 and ending June 30, 1991.

If your FY 91 allocation varies from last year, it is a result of adjustments in the length of street, alley or rural road mileage.

Also attached is a form to be used in reporting your anticipated Fiscal Year 1991 gas tax expenditures. The form will make it easier for you to comply with state law and will enable the Department of Highways to coordinate expenditures for public road improvements.

The Legislature made it clear that cities and counties must report anticipated expenditures of their cos tax allocation to the Department of Highways [MCA 15-70-101(3)]:

> "Upon receipt of the allocation provided herein, the governing bodies of the recipient counties, cities, and towns shall inform the department of highways of the purposes for which the funds will be expended so that the county commissioners, the governing body, and the department of highways may coordinate the expenditure of public funds for road improvements."

Simply fill in the form in the general item blanks that are applicable to your county or city. If you have any questions, please call Larry Williams at 444-6110.

May 18, 1990
Page 2

Please return the completed form prior to December 15, 1990. Mail to:
Larry 0. Williams
Montana Department of Highways
2701 Prospect Avenue
Helena, MT 59620


Larry 0. Williams, Supervisor
Secondary Roads Section

LOW:by:2t

## Attachments

File 303

## ANTICIPATED FY 91 EXPENDITURES OF STATE GAS TAX APPORTIONMENT

## WORK BY COUNTY/CITY FORCES

| Type of work | Location | Amount |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| Grading |  |  |
| Gravel Surfacing |  |  |
| Gravel Crush \& Stockpile |  |  |
| Bituminous Surfacing |  |  |
| Bridge Construction |  |  |
| Other Work by County, City <br> (Specify - drainage, signing, striping, etc.) |  |  |

- WORK BY CONTRACT

Type of work
Location
Amount

Grading $\qquad$

Gravel Surfacing

Gravel Crush \& Stockpile
Roosevelt County
113,967

## Bituminous Surfacing

$\qquad$

Bridge Construction

Other Work by Contract
(Specify - drainage, signing, striping, etc.)









PHILLIPS
PCNDER RIVER
PRAIRIE
RAVALLI
ROOSEVEL
ROSEEUS
SANCERS
SHERICAY
SHERICAY
SILVER BOW
STILLHATER
SHEET GRASS
TREASURE
yellohstone

May 18, 1990

City Clerk
City of Wolf Point
Wolf Point, MT 59201

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May 18, 1990
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Montana Department of Highways
2701 Prospect Avenue Helena, MT 59620


Larry 0. Williams, Supervisor
Secondary Roads Section

LOW:by:2t
Attachments
File 303





 streets anc alleys funds



IGEO MUNICIPAL POPULATION


|  <br>  <br>  |
| :---: |
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|  |  |
|  |  |






 FUNDS







## FROID

FROMGERG
GLASGON
GRASSRANGE
GREAT FALLS
HANILTCN
HAROIN
HARLEM
HARLOHICN
HAVRE
HELENA
HINGHAM
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JUOITH GAP
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KEVIII
LAUREL
LAVINA
LEMISTOWN
LIGBY
LIMA
LIVINGSTON
LODGE GRASS
MALTA
MANHATTAN
MEIICINE LAKE
MELSTONE
MILES CITY
MISSQULA
MOORE
NASHUA
NEIHARI
CPHEIA
CUTLOCK
DIHILIPSEURG
PIAESDALE
PLAINS
PLENTYWOOD
PLEVNA

ALLOCATION OF GASCIINE TAX REVENUE TO CIIIES SECTION $15-70-101$, M.C.A.
FOR FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JURY 1.1950

Streets and alleys
COMBINED ALLCCATION







1980 MUNICIPAL POPULATION
NUMBER PERCENT FUNOS

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February 20, 1991

Senators Thayer and Doherty
Montana State Senate
Capital Station
Helena, Montana 59620
Dear Senators Thayer and Doherty:
Enclosed are my comments pertaining to Senate Bill 272 and the proposed amendment. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact my office. I understand Farrell's desire for a definition. I have a major concern over the latest amendment. I don't have a problem over expanded use if justified and well defined, which the amendment you sent to me is not. Butte has told me that now there is a movement to table Farrell's bill and just let it die in committee. Well, whatever, that leaves the decisions of use to the local municipality. Great Falls will be restrictive/Cascade County will not be -- but what is the best interest to the state?

Cordially,

jls

## Page 3

include these ttems with a more defined purpose, such as personal assets that become a permanent fixture to the physical plant - such as structural components or building improvements.

This program is being used in Montana, to offer grants and to write down interest rates for companies locating in their community. It is considered by many a way in which we can make up for our high business personal property taxes. Maybe we should back up, clean up the act --- make it strickly infrastructure in this amendment and develop a tax-exemption of machinery and equipment bill for development in tax increment financing industrial districts. This is creating Enterprise Zones - something that is done in 31 states. This needs careful consideration. I believe full hearings should be conducted with comments taken by economic developers, municipalities and private industries. Butte would like to see Farrell's bill killed, I think not.

Page 4
Amended Version of SB 272
(1) "Industrial infrastructure" and "infrastructure" mean:
(a) public infrastructure, which includes streets, roads, curbs, alleys, gutters, sidewalks, parking lots, offstreet parking facilities, water ways, waterlines, water treatment facilities, sewers, sewer lines, sewage treatment facilities, storm sewers, naturat-gas-lines-or-faeilities, eleetrieal-lines-or-faeilities; teleeemmunieation lines or faeilities, bridges, raill lines, raill spurs; rail faeilities
 mprovmentor-othe-improvements owned operated and provided by a municipality; or
(b) private infrastructure, which includes streets, roads, curbs, alleys, gutters, sidewalks, parking lots, offstreet parking facilities, water ways, waterlines, water treatment facilities, sewers, sewer lines, sewage treatment facilities, storm sewers,-nattrat-gas-lines-or-faeilities, eteetrieal-lines-or-faeilities; teleeommunieation lines faeilities, bridges, raillines, rail spurs, rail faeilities, inetuding transloading faeilities,-buitdings,-persenal-property or-other

 or operated by a private industrial entity which contributes to the creation of jobs within the tax increment financing industrial district.

GFNATE: : $T$ AHOING COMMJTTEF REPORT
Page 1 of 2
February 2\%, 19?1

MR. PRESJDENT:
We, your eommitee on Tax,lion hovint had moder consideration Senata Bill No. 27 ? (first realing eupy white), respectfully
 pass:

1. Page 1, line 9.
strike: "this"
2. Paqe 1 , line 10.

Strike: "part"
Insert: " $15 \cdot 4298$ an! $; 1542940$
strike: "the following"
3. Paye 1, line 11.

Strike: "definitions apply"
4. Page 1, line 12

Strike: "(1) "1ndustrtal"
Insert: ""industrial"
Followtug: "taffastructure"
lasert: "and "infrastructurn"
Strike: "meane"
Insert: "mean"
Following: "roads"
Ineert: "curbs, alleys, quttris."
5. Page 1. line 13.

Following: "gidewalks,"
Insert: "parking lote, oftstimel parking lacilities, waterways," strike: "and water facilifios"
Following: "sewers"
Insert: "and sever lines"
6. Page 1, line 14.

Followith: "sewers,"
 lines"
Following: "bridges,"
Insert: "rall lines and rail :furs."
Following: "other"
Insert: "related"
7. Page 1, line 15.

Strike: "governmental entity"
Insert: "municipality, as; defined in $/ 15 \cdot 4233 . "$
8. Page 1, lines 18 through 21.

Strike: subsection 2 fin ito antitaty


Page 1 of 1
February 22. 1991
IR FREGTDPNT:
We, your committee on taxalisn hazing had hider consideration Senate Bill No, 439 (first radii "ropy $\cdots$ white), respectfully report that senate fill No. 4 as lo lues.
$\therefore \mid 401!$


Amd. ord. $x^{7 \prime}$
$2 P \quad 2 \quad 3: 2$,
Sec. of Senate

