

MINUTES

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

COMMITTEE ON TAXATION

Call to Order: By Chairman Chase Hibbard, on January 22, 1997,
at 8:00 a.m., in Room 437.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Rep. Chase Hibbard, Chairman (R)
Rep. Robert R. Story, Jr., Vice Chairman (Majority) (R)
Rep. Robert R. "Bob" Ream, Vice Chairman (Minority) (D)
Rep. Peggy Arnott (R)
Rep. Paul Bankhead (R)
Rep. John C. Bohlinger (R)
Rep. Bill Carey (D)
Rep. Alvin A. Ellis, Jr. (R)
Rep. Marian W. Hanson (R)
Rep. Hal Harper (D)
Rep. Dan W. Harrington (D)
Rep. Rick Jore (R)
Rep. Scott J. Orr (R)
Rep. Bob Raney (D)
Rep. John "Sam" Rose (R)
Rep. William M. "Bill" Ryan (D)
Rep. Richard D. Simpkins (R)
Rep. Emily Swanson (D)
Rep. Lila V. Taylor (R)
Rep. Jack Wells (R)

Members Excused: None.

Members Absent: None.

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

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing(s) & Date(s) Posted: SB 47 (1/17/97)
HB 126 (1/9/97)
HB 274 (1/17/97)
HB 294 (1/20/97)

Executive Action: HB 82 Do Pass as Amended
SB 47 Do Concur as Amended
HB 294 Do Pass

HEARING ON SB 47

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

Senator Mike Foster, Senate District 20, opened the hearing on SB 47. The bill would extend the electronic signature alternative. {Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 1.8.}

Proponents' Testimony:

Bill Salisbury, Department of Transportation, proposed an amendment to the bill. Exhibit 1. {Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 4.4.}

Opponents' Testimony:

None.

Informational Testimony:

None.

Questions From Committee Members and Responses:

{Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 5.6.}

Closing by Sponsor:

Sen. Foster closed the hearing. {Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 8.7.}

HEARING ON HB 126

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

Rep. John Cobb, House District 50, opened the hearing on HB 126 which would impose an additional tax on cigarettes. {Tape: 1 A; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 9.4 .}

Proponents' Testimony:

Francis Belgarde, Leo Pocha Clinic, Helena. {Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 26.0.}

Joan Miles, Lewis and Clark County Health Department. {Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 31.0.}

Steve Yeakle, Montana Public Health Association; Montana Council of Maternal and Child Health; Montana Childrens' Alliance. {Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 39.3.}

Mona Jamison, Helena. {Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 43.1.}

Dick Pattison, President, Montana Senior Citizens Association.
{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 3.4.}

Opponents' Testimony:

Jerome Anderson, Attorney, representing the tobacco industry.
Exhibit 2 and 3. {Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 4.9.}

Rep. Bob Pavlovich, Butte. {Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time
Count: 13.5.}

Rep. John Johnson, Glendive. {Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time
Count: 16.2.}

Mark Staples, Montana Wholesale Distributors. {Tape: 1; Side: B;
Approx. Time Count: 17.2.}

Brenda Rummel, Zortman, Montana. Exhibit 4. {Tape: 1; Side: B;
Approx. Time Count: 19.4.}

Mike Parker, Pennington, Inc., representing the tobacco industry.
{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 23.7.}

Larry Akey, R. J. Reynolds. {Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time
Count: 25.9.}

Brenda Brewer, Tobacco Retailers Association. {Tape: 1; Side: B;
Approx. Time Count: 29.3.}

Joe Brand, Veterans of Foreign Wars. {Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx.
Time Count: 31.2.}

Dennis Burr, Montana Taxpayers Association. {Tape: 1; Side: B;
Approx. Time Count: 34.1.}

John Delano, Philip Morris, Inc., {Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time
Count: 35.8.}

Informational Testimony:

Bill Kloker, Department of Revenue, offered an amendment.
Exhibit 5. {Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 37.2.}

Questions From Committee Members and Responses:

{Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 1.1.}

Closing by Sponsor:

Rep. Cobb closed. Exhibit 6. {Tape: 2; Side: A; Approx. Time
Count: 43.9.}

HEARING ON HB 274

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

Rep. Steve Vick, House District 31, opened the hearing on HB 274.
{Tape: 2; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 4.3.}

Proponents' Testimony:

Lynn Chenoweth, Department of Revenue. {Tape: 2; Side: B;
Approx. Time Count: 9.6.}

Riley Johnson. {Tape: 2; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 9.8.}

Opponents' Testimony:

None.

Informational Testimony:

None.

Questions From Committee Members and Responses:

{Tape: 2; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 10.9.}

Closing by Sponsor:

Rep. Vick closed. {Tape: 2; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 19.8.}

HEARING ON HB 294

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

Rep. John Cobb, House District 50, opened the hearing on HB 294,
a proposal for a legislative audit of the DOR property
reappraisal system. {Tape: 2; Side: B; Approx. Time Count:
21.5.}

Proponents' Testimony:

None.

Opponents' Testimony:

None.

Informational Testimony:

None.

Questions From Committee Members and Responses:

{Tape: 2; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 25.5.}

Closing by Sponsor:

Rep. Cobb closed. {Tape: 2; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 41.8.}

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 294

Motion:

Rep. Simpkins moved that HB 294 do pass. {Tape: 3; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: .2.}

Discussion:

{Tape: 3; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 1.5.}

Vote:

The motion passed, 20 - 0. {Tape: 3; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 14.0.}

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 47

Amendments:

Rep. Harper moved the amendment do pass. (Exhibit 1.) Motion passed 20 - 0.

Motion:

Rep. Harper moved that SB 47, as amended, be concurred in. The motion passed 20 - 0. {Tape: 3; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 16.0.}

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 82

Amendments:

Rep. Hibbard moved to adopt the amendment to HB 82. Exhibit 7. The amendment passed 19 - 0. {Tape: 3; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 18.9.}

Rep. Orr moved to amend the bill by striking 1% and inserting .5% to conform with federal law. Exhibit 8. The motion failed 14 - 6. {Tape: 3; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 23.4.}

Motion:

Rep. Swanson moved that HB 82 as amended do pass. The motion passed 15 - 5 with Reps. Orr, Arnott, Jore, Bankhead and Raney voting no. {Tape: 3; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 41.3.}

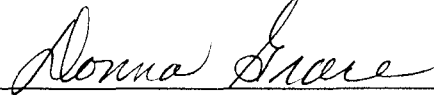
{Tape: 3; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 44.5. Comments:
Adjourn.}

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 11:55 a.m.



REP. CHASE HIBBARD, Chairman



DONNA GRACE, Secretary

CH/DG