

**MINUTES**

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

**COMMITTEE ON TAXATION**

**Call to Order:** By Chairman Chase Hibbard, on April 9, 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 395 (4/2)  
Executive Action: SB 372 - Concur as Amended  
SB 272 - Concur as Amended  
SB 300 - Concur as Amended  
SB 336 - Concur

HEARING ON SB 395Opening Statement by Sponsor:

Sen. Dale Mahlum, Senate District 35, opened the hearing on SB 395, a bill for a rental care surcharge for equalizing taxes and providing funding for the heritage preservation fund. {Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 0.7.}

Proponents' Testimony:

Candace Torgerson, Montana Car Rental Association. {Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 6.9.}

Steve Costley, Montana Car Rental Association. {Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 12.7.}

The following representatives of car rental agencies appeared in support of the bill: Wayne Stotts (Hertz, Great Falls), Mike Lucero (Hertz, Bozeman), John Grace (Avis, Helena), Margaret Hartman (Hertz, Helena), Jerry Woodahl (Hertz and Rent-a-Wreck, Missoula) **EXHIBIT 1**, David Leipheimer (Avis, Butte and other locations throughout the state), Rob Doyle (Avis), Andy English (Thrifty, Missoula and Kalispell), and Andy Wilcox (National Car Rental Montana Franchise). {Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 18.1.}

Evan Barrett, Butte Economic Development. {Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 22.1.}

Connie Daniels, Headwaters Economic Development. {Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 22.9.}

Mona Jamison, National Historic Preservation Association. {Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 23.9.}

Allen Mathews, Alberton, Montana. {Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 27.7.}

Kathy Macefield, Preservation Officer, Helena. **EXHIBIT 2**. {Tape: 1; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 29.0.}

Russ Ritter, Washington Foundation. {Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 0.1.}

Connie Daniels on behalf of various organizations. **EXHIBIT 3**. {Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 0.9.}

Opponents' Testimony:

Robert Ward, Enterprise Rent a Car. {Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 1.6.}

Riley Johnson, Enterprise Rent a Car. **EXHIBIT 4.** {Tape: 1;  
Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 4.4.}

Michele Chard, Controller, Enterprise Rent a Car. {Tape: 1;  
Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 7.5.}

Informational Testimony:

Dave Galt, Department of Transportation. **EXHIBIT 5.** {Tape: 1;  
Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 10.0.}

Questions From Committee Members and Responses:

{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 15.2; Comments: Questions  
and discussion continued on Tape 2 A and 2 B.}

Closing by Sponsor:

Rep. Mahlum closed the hearing. {Tape: 2; Side: B; Approx. Time  
Count: 20.7.}

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 372

Motion:

Rep. Swanson moved to concur in SB 372. {Tape: 3; Side: A;  
Approx. Time Count: 0.1.}

Motion/Vote:

Rep Swanson moved the amendments to SB 372. **EXHIBIT 6.** The  
motion passed unanimously.

Motion:

Rep. Ream moved to concur in SB 372 as amended. {Tape: 3; Side:  
A; Approx. Time Count: 6.1; Comments: Discussion on the bill  
continued on Tape 3B.}

Vote:

The motion passed 18 - 2, with Reps. Story and Arnott voting no.  
{Tape: 3; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 2.4.}

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 272

Motion:

Rep. Rose moved to concur in SB 272. {Tape: 3; Side: B; Approx.  
Time Count: 4.3.}

**Motion/Vote:**

Rep. Swanson moved an amendment to remove the retroactive date from the bill. **EXHIBIT 7.** The motion passed 17 - 3, with Reps. Orr, Rose and Jore voting no. {Tape: 3; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 12.0.}

**Motion/Vote:**

Rep. Rose moved to concur in SB 272 as amended. The motion passed 15 - 5, with Reps. Ryan, Carey, Harrington, Harper and Ream voting no. {Tape: 3; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 20.0.}

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 300****Motion:**

Rep. Simpkins moved to concur in SB 300. {Tape: 3; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 23.2.}

**Motion/Vote:**

Rep. Simpkins moved an amendment to change \$12,000 to \$15,000. **EXHIBIT 8.** The motion passed unanimously. {Tape: 3; Side: B; Approx. Time Count: 24.4.}

**Motion/Vote:**

Rep. Simpkins moved that SB 300 as amended be concurred in. The motion passed unanimously. {Tape: 4; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 2.9.}

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 336****Motion/Vote:**

Rep. Story moved to concur in SB 336. The motion passed 18 - 2, with Reps. Orr and Wells voting no. {Tape: 4; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 3.1.}

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SB 393****Motion/Vote:**

Rep. Simpkins moved to concur in SB 393. The motion failed 10 - 10, with Reps. Story, Ryan, Rose, Harrington, Ellis, Simpkins, Bankhead, Bohlinger, Hanson and Hibbard voting yes. {Tape: 4; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 6.3.}

Motion/Vote:

Rep. Story moved to table SB 393. The motion passed 17 - 3, with Reps. Bankhead, Bohlinger and Hanson voting no. {Tape: 4; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 13.0.}

{Tape: 4; Side: A; Approx. Time Count: 15.0; Comments: Adjourn.}

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 12:00 Noon.



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REP. CHASE HIBBARD, Chairman



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DONNA GRACE, Secretary

CH/DG