

SENATE BILL NO. 241

1/24 Introduced
1/25 Referred to Local Government
2/12 Hearing
2/25 Adverse Committee Report
 As Amended, Do Not Pass
2/26 On Motion Placed on 2nd Reading
2/26 2nd Reading Indefinitely Postponed

1 Senate BILL NO. 241
2 INTRODUCED BY Neuman

3
4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT PERMITTING A COUNTY TO
5 ASSESS A FEE ON IMPROVED PROPERTY NOT RECEIVING CERTAIN
6 ORGANIZED FIRE PROTECTION FOR GENERAL FIRE CONTROL
7 ACTIVITIES; AMENDING SECTION 7-33-2209, MCA; AND PROVIDING
8 AN EFFECTIVE DATE."

9
10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

11 Section 1. Section 7-33-2209, MCA, is amended to read:

12 "7-33-2209. Finance of fire control activities. (1)
13 The county governing body is authorized to appropriate funds
14 for:

15 (a) the purchase, care, and maintenance of
16 firefighting equipment; ~~or-for~~

17 (b) the payment of wages in prevention, detection, and
18 suppression of fires;

19 (c) purchase or maintenance of fire protection
20 facilities;

21 (d) contracting for fire protection service to
22 property specified in 7-33-2201.

23 (2) (a) For the purpose of financing fire control
24 activities listed in subsection (1) on property within a
25 county that is not receiving fire protection through a rural

1 fire district under Title 7, chapter 33, part 21; a
2 municipal fire department under Title 7, chapter 33, part
3 41; or the department of state lands under Title 76, chapter
4 11, part 1, the county governing body may establish a fee
5 for fire service to be assessed on all improvements to real
6 property in the area receiving the fire service.

7 (b) The fee may be a flat fee for all improvements or
8 may be a schedule of fees based upon types of improvements,
9 types of fire hazards, and difficulty in fighting a fire in
10 the improvement. The county governing body shall publish
11 notice of the amount of the fee or schedule of fees and
12 provide opportunity for public protests of such fees prior
13 to their adoption.

14 (c) The fee must be placed on the property tax notice
15 pertaining to the improved property to be collected with the
16 property tax. If a property owner fails to pay the fee, it
17 becomes a lien upon the property.

18 {2}{3} If the general fund is budgeted to the full
19 limit, the county governing body may, at any time fixed by
20 law for levy and assessment of taxes, levy a tax at such
21 rate as in their judgment will be necessary to raise such
22 needed sum, not to exceed \$15,000."

23 NEW SECTION. Section 2. Effective date. This act is
24 effective July 1, 1985.

-End-

-2-

INTRODUCED BILL
SB 241

