SB 61 INTRODUCED BY HALLIGAN, PINSONEAULT PROVIDING CORPORATION LICENSE AND INCOME TAX EXEMPTION FOR NEW CORPORATIONS

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1/06 INTRODUCED

- 1/06 REFERRED TO TAXATION
- 1/07 FISCAL NOTE REQUESTED
- 1/12 FISCAL NOTE RECEIVED
- 1/14 HEARING

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1/16 TABLED IN COMMITTEE

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BILL NO. 6/ 1 INTRODUCED BY 3

4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT PROVIDING A 1-YEAR 5 EXEMPTION FROM CORPORATION LICENSE AND INCOME TAXES FOR NEW 6 CORPORATIONS; AMENDING SECTIONS 15-31-101, 15-31-401, AND 15-31-403, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE." 7

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

10 NEW SECTION. Section 1. Definitions. As used in 11 (sections 1 and 2), the following definitions apply:

(1) "First year of activity" means the first calendar 12 13 guarter during which a new corporation is engaged in business and the immediately succeeding 3 calendar guarters. 14 15 (2) "New corporation" means a corporation doing business or formed for the purpose of doing business after 16 (the effective date of this act). A new corporation does not 17 include an existing corporation in this state that has been 18 19 reorganized or the creation of a parent, subsidiary, or affiliate of which 10% or more is owned or controlled by the 20 21 same person, corporation, or association.

22 NEW SECTION. Section 2. New corporation exempt from 23 taxation -- application. (1) A corporation organized to engage in business in the state of Montana is not subject to 24 any of the taxes imposed by this chapter during its first 25

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year of activity. 1

2 (2) (a) To be considered a new corporation, the chief 3 executive officer of the corporation or his agent shall file with the department of revenue an application for treatment 4 5 as a new corporation.

6 (b) The application must be made on a form to be provided by the department. The form must include, at a 7 Q minimum:

(i) the name and address of each officer of the new 9 10 corporation;

(ii) the name of the new corporation as required for 11 12 the purposes of incorporation in 35-1-202;

13 (iii) the address of its initial registered office as 14 required for the purpose of incorporation in 35-1-202;

15 (iv) the date the articles of incorporation were filed 16 with the secretary of state as required in 35-1-203; and

17 (v) any other information the department requires to effectively administer the provisions of this section. 18

(c) The application must be filed with the department 19 before the end of the first calendar quarter during which 20 21 the new corportion engages in business in Montana.

22 (3) On receipt of the information required in subsection (2)(b), provided that it was filed in the time 23 24 allowed under subsection (2)(c), the department shall 25 designate the applicant as a new corporation for the

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1 purposes of this section.

2 (4) Failure by an applicant to provide information
3 required by the department under subsection (2)(b) or
4 failure to file within the time allowed under subsection
5 (2)(c) automatically disgualifies the applicant from being
6 designated and treated as a new corporation for the purposes
7 of this section.

B (5) The director of the department may grant an 9 extension of time for an applicant to file an application 10 for treatment as a new corporation, provided that the 11 extension is given in writing and the extension does not 12 extend beyond 30 days from the date the application was 13 required to be filed under subsection (2)(c).

14 (6) For the purpose of calculating or otherwise 15 determining the period for which a deduction, exclusion, 16 exemption, or credit may be taken under the provisions of 17 this chapter, the department shall disregard a corporation's 18 first year of activity and administer the deduction. 19 exclusion, exemption, or credit as if the corporation did 20 not exist during the first year of activity. This treatment 21 of a new corporation extends to net operating loss carryback 22 and net operating loss carryforward provisions allowed under 23 this chapter.

Section 3. Section 15-31-101, MCA, is amended to read:
"15-31-101. Organizations subject to tax. (1) The term

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"corporation" includes associations, joint-stock companies,
 common-law trusts and business trusts which do business in
 an organized capacity, and all other corporations whether
 created, organized, or existing under and pursuant to the
 laws, agreements, or declarations of trust of any state,
 country, or the United States.

7 (2) The terms "engaged in business" and "doing
8 business" both mean actively engaging in any transaction for
9 the purpose of financial or pecuniary gain or profit.

10 (3) Every corporation, except as-hereinafter-provided and-except as provided in [section 2], 33-2-705(6), or as 11 12 may be otherwise specifically provided, engaged in business in the state of Montana shall annually pay to the state 13 14 treasurer as a license fee for the privilege of carrying on business in this state such percentage or percentages of its 15 total net income for the preceding taxable year at the rate 16 hereinafter set forth. In the case of corporations having 17 income from business activity which is taxable both within 18 and without this state, the license fee shall be measured by 19 20 the net income derived from or attributable to Montana 21 sources as determined under part 3. This tax is due and 22 payable on the 15th day of the 5th month following the close of the taxable year of the corporation; however, the tax 23 24 becomes a lien as provided in this chapter on the last day 25 of the taxable year in which the income was earned and is

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for the privilege of carrying on business in this state for
 the taxable year in which the income was earned.

(4) Every bank organized under the laws of the state 3 4 of Montana, of any other state, or of the United States and 5 every savings and loan association organized under the laws 6 of this state or of the United States is subject to the 7 Montana corporation license tax provided for under this 8 chapter. For taxable years beginning on and after January 1, 9 1972, this subsection is effective in accordance with Public 10 Law 91-156, section 2 (12 U.S.C. 548)."

11 Section 4. Section 15-31-401, MCA, is amended to read: "15-31-401, Application of license and income taxes, 12 (1) It is the intent of the legislature that the 13 corporation license tax shall be applied to all corporations 14 subject to taxation under part 1 of this chapter. The Except 15 as provided in subsection (2), the income tax provided by 16 this part shall be applied to corporations that are not 17 18 taxable under part 1 of this chapter but are taxable under 19 an income tax.

(2) A new corporation as defined in [section 1] is not
subject to either the corporation license tax provided in
part 1 of this chapter or to the corporation income tax
provided in this part during the new corporation's first
year of activity."

25 Section 5. Section 15-31-403, MCA, is amended to read:

"15-31-403. Rate of tax imposed -- income from sources 1 2 within state defined -- alternative tax. (1) There Except as provided in 15-31-401, there is hereby imposed upon every 3 corporation for each taxable year an income tax at the rate 4 specified in 15-31-121 and 15-31-122 upon its net income 5 6 derived from sources within this state for taxable years 7 beginning after December 31, 1970, other than income for any period for which the corporation is subject to taxation 8 under part 1 of this chapter, according to or measured by 9 10 its net income.

11 (2) Income from sources within this state includes income from tangible or intangible property located in or 12 having a situs in this state and income from any activities 13 14 carried on in this state, regardless of whether carried on 15 in intrastate, interstate, or foreign commerce, but does not 16 include interest paid on loans held by out-of-state 17 financial institutions recognized as such in the state of 18 their domicile, secured by mortgages, trust indentures, or 19 other security interests on real or personal property located within the state, if the loan is originated by a 20 21 lender doing business in Montana and assigned out-of-state 22 and there is no activity conducted by the out-of-state lender in Montana except periodic inspection of the 23 24 security.

25 (3) Pursuant to Article III, section 2, of the

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1 Multistate Tax Compact, any corporation required to file a return under this part and whose only activity in Montana 2 3 consists of making sales and which does not own or rent real estate or tangible personal property within Montana and 4 whose annual gross volume of sales made in Montana does not 5 6 exceed \$100,000 may elect to pay a tax of 1/2 of 1% of gross sales made in Montana during the taxable year. Such 7 8 tax shall be in lieu of the tax otherwise imposed under this 9 section. The gross volume of sales made in Montana during 10 the taxable year shall be determined according to Article 11 IV, sections 16 and 17, of the Multistate Tax Compact."

NEW SECTION. Section 6. Extension of authority. Any
existing authority of the department of revenue to make
rules on the subject of the provisions of this act is
extended to the provisions of this act.

16 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Section 7. Codification instruction.
17 Sections 1 and 2 are intended to be codified as an integral
18 part of Title 15, chapter 31, and the provisions of Title 15
19 apply to sections 1 and 2.

20 <u>NEW SECTION.</u> Section 8. Effective date. This act is
21 effective July 1, 1987.

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STATE OF MONTANA - FISCAL NOTE Form BD-15

In compliance with a written request, there is hereby submitted a Fiscal Note for SB061, as introduced.

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION:

An Act providing for a one year exemption from corporation license and income taxes for new corporations; and providing an effective date.

ASSUMPTIONS:

- 1. There are an average of 920 new corporate tax filers each year. Based on the population of corporate tax returns, it is estimated that approximately half, or 460, of the new filers will earn a profit (2.3% of all returns). The remaining 460 returns will pay the minimum tax of \$50.
- 2.3% of the net collections as calculated as follows are paid by the new, profitable corporations. 2.

	FY84	FY85	FY86	Average
Total Collections	\$35,396,240	\$62,670,886	\$58,584,784	
Less: Top 50 Corporations (w/o Financials)	11,858,636	16,475,063	20,746,219	
Financial Institutions	4,114,096	6,664,610	7,049,703	
Audit Collections	3,965,663	16,615,089	10,312,274	
Net Collections	\$15,457,845	\$22,916,124	\$20,476,588	\$19,616,852

- 3. No corporations exempted under the proposal are financial institutions.
- The proposal applies to incorporations after July 1, 1987 and will affect returns filed after that date. 4.
- 5. It is assumed that the proposal is limited to incorporations of new businesses operating in the state for the first time (as opposed to reorganizations of existing businesses).
- The Revenue Estimating Advisory Council's estimates of corporate tax receipts provide the basis for 6. comparison. Collections will be \$53,063,000 in FY 88 and \$58,995,000 in FY 89.
- The proposal prohibits the carryover of net operating losses from the first year. This will increase the 7. corporation's tax in future years when it becomes profitable. The impact estimates ignore this effect because it is difficult to predict future profitability.

HUNTER.

Office of Budget and Program Planning

DATE/-/2-87 RIMARY SPONSOR HALLIGAN

Fiscal Note for SB061, as introduced,

Fiscal Note Request, <u>SB061</u>, as introduced. Form BD-15

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FISCAL IMPACT:

Revenue Impact:

	FY88			•		FY89		
	Current Law	Proposed Law	Difference		Current Law	Proposed Law	Difference	
Corporate Income Tax	\$53,063,000	\$52,588,812	(\$474,188)		\$58,995,000	\$58,520,812	(\$474,188)	
<u>Expenditure Impact:</u> None								
Fund Information:								
General Fund	\$30,816,000	\$30,512,520	(\$303,480)		\$34,262,000	\$33,958,520	(\$303,480)	
Foundation Program	12,038,000	11,919,452	(118,548)		13,383,000	13,264,452	(118,548)	
Long-Range Bond Fund	5,297,000	5,244,840	(52,160)		5,889,000	5,836,840	(52,160)	
Local Governments	4,912,000	4,912,000	0		5,461,000	5,461,000	0	
TOTALS	\$53,063,000	\$52,588,812	(\$474,188)		\$58,995,000	\$58,520,812	(\$474,188	

EFFECT ON COUNTY OR OTHER LOCAL REVENUE OR EXPENDITURES: N/A

LONG-RANGE EFFECTS OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION: N/A

TECHNICAL OR MECHANICAL DEFECTS IN PROPOSED LEGISLATION OR CONFLICTS WITH EXISTING LEGISLATION: N/A