SB 386 INTRODUCED BY KEATING, HARDING, BECK, ET AL. REPEAL PERSONAL PROPERTY TAXES/CAP ON REAL PROPERTY AT 1 PERCENT OF MARKET VALUE

2/20 INTRODUCED 2/20 REFERRED TO TAXATION 2/20 FISCAL NOTE REQUESTED 3/04 FISCAL NOTE RECEIVED 3/05 HEARING

3/09 TABLED IN COMMITTEE

1 INTRODUCED BY XCATCAGO 2 3 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: TO GENERALLY REVISE PROPERTY TAXATION BY REPEALING TAXES ON PERSONAL PROPERTY 5 PLACING A CAP ON CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY TAXES EQUIVALENT 6 PERCENT OF MARKET VALUE: MAKING PROPERTY TAX REVISIONS 7 8 CONTINGENT ON PASSAGE AND APPROVAL OF A GENERAL SALES TAX 9 WITH REVENUE DIRECTED TO EDUCATIONAL AND OTHER 10 GOVERNMENT PURPOSES; AMENDING SECTIONS 7-21-2104, 15-1-101, 11 15-1-701, 15-6-101, 15-6-135, 15-6-137, 15-6-138, 15-6-140, 15-6-141, 15-6-145, 15-6-147, 15-6-201, 15-6-203, 15-7-102, 12 13 15-8-104, 15-8-111, 15-8-201, 15-8-301, 15-8-407, 15-8-701, 14 15-8-706. 15-10-105. 15-10-302, 15-16-117, 15-16-611, 15 15-18-103, 15-18-205, 15-18-305, 15-23-101, 15-23-103, 16 15-23-105. 15-23-106. 15-23-201, 15-23-202, 15-23-501, 17 15-23-503, 15-23-504, 15-23-508, 15-23-522, 15-23-608, 18 15-23-611, 15-23-704, 15-23-806, 15-24-601, 15-24-701. 15-24-801, 15-24-1001, 15-24-1101, 15-24-1104, 15-24-1203, 19 20 20-15-403, 25-13-404, 61-3-532, 61-3-701. 21 67-3-201, 67-3-202, 81-7-303, AND 81-8-804, MCA; REPEALING SECTIONS 15-6-136, 15-6-139, 15-6-142, 15-6-146, 15-6-202, 22 23 15-6-204, 15-6-207, 15-6-210, 15-8-202, 15-8-204, 15-8-205, 24 15-8-401, 15-8-404, 15-8-405, 15-8-408, 15-16-111 THROUGH 25 15-16-115, 15-16-401, 15-16-402, 15-16-404, 15-16-503.

1 15-16-701 THROUGH 15-16-703, 15-17-901 THROUGH 15-17-903. 15-23-401 THROUGH 15-23-403, 15-24-101 THROUGH 15-24-105. 15-24-201 THROUGH 15-24-208, 15-24-301 THROUGH 15-24-304. 3 15-24-901 THROUGH 15-24-906, 15-24-908 THROUGH 15-24-911 15-24-921 THROUGH 15-24-926, 15-24-931, 15-24-941 THROUGH 5 15-24-943, AND 61-3-707, MCA; AND PROVIDING A CONTINGENT б EFFECTIVE PROVISION AND A RETROACTIVE APPLICABILITY DATE." 8 9 WHEREAS, the electors of Montana approved Initiative 10 No. 105 limiting certain property taxes to 1986 levels 11 unless the Legislature reduces property taxes prior to July 12 1, 1987, and establishes alternative revenue sources; and 13 WHEREAS, it is the intent of the Legislature to enact 14 provisions compatible with the will of the electors in 15 limiting certain property taxes; and 16 WHEREAS, the Legislature intends by this bill to 17 provide broad property tax relief and a revenue source to fund such relief, while maintaining the fiscal integrity of 18 necessary local government services. 19 20

Montana Legislative Council

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following:

INTRODUCED BILL

limit

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

percentage of market value. Property taxed under Title 15, chapter 6, is subject to a tax equal to the lesser of the

NEW SECTION. Section 1. Property

taxable value.

1 (1) the tax liability determined by the product of the 2 taxable value multiplied by total mills levied in a tax 3 year; or

(2) 1% of the market value of the property.

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NEW SECTION. Section 2. Property tax limit -- special considerations. (1) The limitation on the amount of tax liability based on a percentage of market value does not mean that no increase may be made in the market value of property resulting from:

- (a) expansion, addition, replacement, or remodeling of improvements;
- 12 (b) transfer of property from tax-exempt to taxable 13 status; or
- 14 (c) revaluations caused by cyclical reappraisal.
 - (2) The limitation on the amount of tax liability based on a percentage of market value does not apply to the following levy or special assessment categories, whether they are based on commitments made before or commitments made after (the effective date of this act):
 - (a) rural improvement districts:
- 21 (b) special improvement districts;
- (c) levies pledged for the repayment of bondedindebtedness, including tax increment bonds;
 - (d) city street maintenance districts;
- 25 (e) satisfaction of judgments against a taxing unit;

- 1 (f) electric company street lighting assessments; and
- 2 (g) revolving funds to support any of the above.
- 3 (3) If the tax liability for a property is a
 4 percentage of market value and one or more of the items in
 5 subsection (2) are applicable, the tax bill must include an
 6 additional amount for such items. That amount is determined
 7 by the product of the appropriate mills multiplied by
- NEW SECTION. Section 3. Disbursement of property tax paid as paid as percentage of market value. The property tax paid as a percentage of market value pursuant to [section 1] must be disbursed to all affected taxing jurisdictions according to the ratio of the mills levied by each taxing jurisdiction in proportion to the total mills levied against a property.
- 15 Section 4. Section 7-21-2104, MCA, is amended to read:
 16 "7-21-2104. Lien arising from license. (1) All
 17 property held or used in any trade, occupation, or
 18 profession for which a license is required by the provisions
 19 of this part is liable for such license and subject to a
 20 lien for the amount thereof. This lien has precedence of any
 21 other lien, claim, or demand.
- 22 (2) If any person fails or refuses to procure a
 23 license before the transaction of the business specified,
 24 the county treasurer must seize such property or any other
 25 property belonging to such person and sell the same in-the

manner-provided-in-15-17-901-through-15-17-903."

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- Section 5. Section 15-1-101, MCA, is amended to read:

 "15-1-101. Definitions. (1) Except as otherwise

 specifically provided, when terms mentioned in this section

 are used in connection with taxation, they are defined in

 the following manner:
 - (a) The term "agricultural" refers to the raising of livestock, poultry, bees, and other species of domestic animals and wildlife in domestication or a captive environment, and the raising of field crops, fruit, and other animal and vegetable matter for food or fiber.
- 12 (b) The term "assessed value" means the value of 13 property as defined in 15-8-111.
 - (c) The term "average wholesale value" means the value to a dealer prior to reconditioning and profit margin shown in national appraisal guides and manuals or the valuation schedules of the department of revenue.
 - (d) (i) The term "commercial", when used to describe property, means any <u>real</u> property <u>and improvements</u> used or owned by a business, a trade, or a nonprofit corporation as defined in 35-2-102 or used for the production of income, except that property described in subsection (ii).
- 23 (ii) The following types of property are not 24 commercial:
- 25 (A) agricultural lands;

1 (B) timberlands;

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- 2 (C) single-family residences and ancillary
 3 improvements and improvements necessary to the function of a
 4 bona fide farm, ranch, or stock operation;
- 5 (D) mobile homes used exclusively as a residence 6 except-when-held-by-a-distributor-or-dealer-of--trailers--or 7 mobile-homes-as-his-stock-in-trade; and
 - (E) all property described in 15-6-135;
 - tP)--all-property-described-in-15-6-136;-and
- 10 (6)--all-property-described-in-15-6-146.
- 11 (e) The term "comparable property" means property that
 12 has similar use, function, and utility; that is influenced
 13 by the same set of economic trends and physical,
 14 governmental, and social factors; and that has the potential
 15 of a similar highest and best use.
- 16 (f) The term "credit" means solvent debts, secured or
 17 unsecured, owing to a person.
- 18 (g) The term "improvements" includes all buildings, structures, fences, and improvements situated upon, erected 19 upon, or affixed to land. When the department of revenue or 20 21 its agent determines that the permanency of location of a 22 mobile home or housetrailer has been established, the mobile home or housetrailer is presumed to be an improvement to 23 24 real property. A mobile home or housetrailer may be determined to be permanently located only when it is 25

attached to a foundation which cannot feasibly be relocated and only when the wheels are removed.

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- (h) The term "leasehold improvements" means improvements to mobile homes and mobile homes located on land owned by another person. This property is assessed under the appropriate classification and the taxes are due and payable in two payments as provided in 15-24-202 15-16-102. Delinquent taxes on such leasehold improvements are a lien only on such leasehold improvements.
- 10 (i) The term "livestock" means cattle, sheep, swine,
 11 qoats, horses, mules, and asses.
 - (j) The term "mobile home" means forms of housing known as "trailers", "housetrailers", or "trailer coaches" exceeding 8 feet in width or 45 feet in length, designed to be moved from one place to another by an independent power connected to them, or any "trailer", "housetrailer", or "trailer coach" up to 8 feet in width or 45 feet in length used as a principal residence.
 - (k) The term "personal property" includes everything that is the subject of ownership but that is not included within the meaning of the terms "real estate" and "improvements".
- 23 (1) The term "poultry" includes all chickens, turkeys, 24 geese, ducks, and other birds raised in domestication to 25 produce food or feathers.

- 1 (m) The term "property" includes moneys, credits,
 2 bonds, stocks, franchises, and all other matters and things,
 3 real, personal, and mixed, capable of private ownership.
 4 This definition must not be construed to authorize the
 5 taxation of the stocks of any company or corporation when
 6 the property of such company or corporation represented by
 7 the stocks is within the state and has been taxed.
 - (n) The term "real estate" includes:

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- 9 (i) the possession of, claim to, ownership of, or 10 right to the possession of land;
 - (ii) all mine, minerals, and quarries in and under the land subject to the provisions of 15-23-501 and Title 15, chapter 23, part 8; all timber belonging to individuals or corporations growing or being on the lands of the United States; and all rights and privileges appertaining thereto.
- 16 (o) The term "taxable value" means the percentage of
 17 market or assessed value as provided for in 15-6-131 through
 18 15-6-140.
- 19 (2) The phrase "municipal corporation" or
 20 "municipality" or "taxing unit" shall be deemed to include a
 21 county, city, incorporated town, township, school district,
 22 irrigation district, drainage district, or any person,
 23 persons, or organized body authorized by law to establish
 24 tax levies for the purpose of raising public revenue.
- 25 (3) The term "state board" or "board" when used

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- without other qualification shall mean the state tax appeal board."
- Section 6. Section 15-1-701, MCA, is amended to read:

 "15-1-701. Warrant for distraint. (1) A warrant for
 distraint is an order, under the official seal of the
 department of revenue, directed to a sheriff of any county
 of Montana or to any agent authorized by law to collect a
 tax. The order commands the recipient to levy upon and sell
 the real and-personal property of a delinquent taxpayer.

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- (2) Upon filing the warrant as provided in 15-1-704, there is a lien against all real and-personal property of the delinquent taxpayer located in the county where the warrant is filed. The resulting lien is treated in the same manner as a properly docketed judgment lien, and the department may collect delinquent taxes and enforce the tax lien in the same manner as a judgment is enforced.
- (3) A warrant may be issued for the amount of unpaid tax plus penalty, if any, and accumulated interest. The lien is for the amount indicated on the warrant plus accrued interest from the date of the warrant."
- Section 7. Section 15-6-101, MCA, is amended to read:
 "15-6-101. Property subject to taxation -classification. (1) All real property and improvements in
 this state is are subject to taxation, except as provided
 otherwise.

- 1 (2) For the purpose of taxation, the taxable property
 2 in the state shall be classified in accordance with this
 3 part."
- Section 8. Section 15-6-135, MCA, is amended to read:

 "15-6-135. Class five property -- description -taxable percentage. (1) Class five property includes:
- 7 (a) all real property and improvements used and owned 8 by cooperative rural electrical and cooperative rural 9 telephone associations organized under the laws of Montana, 10 except property owned by cooperative organizations described 11 in subsection (1)(c) of 15-6-137;
- 12 (b) air and water pollution control equipment
 13 improvements as defined in this section;
- 14 (c) new industrial property as defined in this 15 section;
- 16 (d) any personal—or real property and improvements

 17 used primarily in the production of gasohol during

 18 construction and for the first 3 years of its operation.
 - (2) (a) "Air and water pollution equipment control improvements" means facilities,—machinery,—or—equipment used to reduce or control water or atmospheric pollution or contamination by removing, reducing, altering, disposing, or storing pollutants, contaminants, wastes, or heat. The department of health and environmental sciences shall determine if such utilization is being made.

sciences' determination as to air and water pollution equipment control improvements may be appealed to the board of health and environmental sciences and may not be appealed to either a county tax appeal board or the state tax appeal board. However, the appraised value of the equipment improvements as determined by the department of revenue may be appealed to the county tax appeal board and the state tax appeal board.

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- (3) "New industrial property" means any new industrial plant, including land,—buildings,—machinery,—and-fixtures and improvements, used by new industries during the first 3 years of their operation. The property may not have been assessed within the state of Montana prior to July 1, 1961.
- (4) (a) "New industry" means any person, corporation, firm, partnership, association, or other group that establishes a new plant in Montana for the operation of a new industrial endeavor, as distinguished from a mere expansion, reorganization, or merger of an existing industry.
- 21 (b) New industry includes only those industries that:
- 22 (i) manufacture, mill, mine, produce, process, or
 23 fabricate materials:
- 24 (ii) do similar work, employing capital and labor, in
 25 which materials unserviceable in their natural state are

- extracted, processed, or made fit for use or are substantially altered or treated so as to create commercial products or materials; or
- 4 (iii) engage in the mechanical or chemical
 5 transformation of materials or substances into new products
 6 in the manner defined as manufacturing in the 1972 Standard
 7 Industrial Classification Manual prepared by the United
 8 States office of management and budget.
- 9 (5) New industrial property does not include:
- (a) property used by retail or wholesale merchants,
 commercial services of any type, agriculture, trades, or
 professions:
- (b) a plant that will create adverse impact on existing state, county, or municipal services; or
- 16 (c) property used or employed in any industrial plant
 16 that has been in operation in this state for 3 years or
 17 longer.
- 18 (6) Class five property is taxed at 3% of its market
 19 value."
- 20 Section 9. Section 15-6-137, MCA, is amended to read:
- 21 "15-6-137. Class seven property -- description --
- 22 taxable percentage. (1) Class seven property includes:
- 23 (a) all <u>real</u> property <u>and improvements</u> used and owned 24 by persons, firms, corporations, or other organizations that
- 25 are engaged in the business of furnishing telephone

communications	exclusively to rural a	areas or to rural	areas
and cities and	towns of 800 persons	or less;	

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- (b) all <u>real</u> property <u>and improvements</u> owned by cooperative rural electrical and cooperative rural telephone associations that serve less than 95% of the electricity consumers or telephone users within the incorporated limits of a city or town; <u>and</u>
- (c) electric transformers and meters; electric light and power substation machinery; natural gas measuring and regulating station equipment, meters, and compressor station machinery owned by noncentrally assessed public utilities; and—toois—used—in—the—repair—and—maintenance—of—this property;—and
- 14 (d)--tools; implements; and machinery-used--to--repair
 15 and-maintain-machinery-not-used-for-manufacturing-and-mining
 16 purposes.
 - (2) To qualify for this classification, the average circuit miles for each station on the telephone communication system described in subsection (1)(b) must be more than 1 mile.
- 21 (3) Class seven property is taxed at 8% of its market value."
- 23 Section 10. Section 15-6-138, MCA, is amended to read: 24 "15-6-138. Class eight property -- description --25 taxable percentage. (1) Class eight property includes:

1	ta; all-agricultural-implements-and-equipment;

- 4 (i)--those-included-in-class-five;-and
- 5 fiit-coat-and-ore-hauters:
- 6 (c)--all, including manufacturing machinery,-fixtures,
 7 equipment,-tools,-and-supplies improvements, except those
- 8 included in another class five;.
- 9 (d)--a±t--traiters--up--to--and-including-18,000-pounds
 10 maximum-gross-toaded-weight,-except-those-subject-to--a--fee
 11 in-lieu-of-property-tax;
- 12 (e)--aircraft;
- 13 (f)--all--goods--and--equipment--intended--for--rent-or 14 lease;-except-goods-and-equipment-specifically-included--and
- 15 taxed-in-another-class:-and
- 16 (g)--all---other--machinery--except--that--specifically
 17 included-in-another-class:
- 18 (2) Class eight property is taxed at 11% of its market
 19 value."
- 20 Section 11. Section 15-6-140, MCA, is amended to read:
- 21 "15-6-140. Class ten property -- description --
- 22 taxable percentage. (1) Class ten property includes:
- 23 tat improvements used for radio and television
 24 broadcasting and transmitting equipment;
- 25 th and for cable television systems.

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2	<pre>+d)trucks-having-a-rated-capacity-of-more-than1-1/2</pre>						
3	tons,-including-those-prorated-under-15-24-102,						
4	(e)all-trailers-exceeding-18,000-pounds-maximum-gross						
5	loadedweighty-including-those-prorated-under-15-24-102-and						
6	except-those-subject-to-a-fee-in-lieu-of-property-tax;						
7	<pre>ff)theater-projectors-and-sound-equipment;-and</pre>						
8	(g)all-other-property-not-included-in-any-other-class						
9	in-this-part-except-that-property-subject-to-a-feeinlieu						
10	of-a-property-tax-						
11	(2) Class ten property is taxed at 16% of its market						
12	value."						
13	Section 12. Section 15-6-141, MCA, is amended to read:						
14	"15-6-141. Class eleven property description						
15	taxable percentage. (1) Class eleven property includes \underline{real}						
16	property and improvements as follows:						
17	(a) centrally assessed electric power companies'						
18	allocations, including, if congress passes legislation that						
19	allows the state to tax property owned by an agency created						
20	by congress to transmit or distribute electrical energy,						
21	allocations of properties constructed, owned, or operated by						
22	a public agency created by the congress to transmit or						
23	distribute electric energy produced at privately owned						
24	generating facilities (not including rural electric						
25	cooperatives);						

(c)--coal-and-ore-haulers;

L	(b)	allocatio	ns fo	or	centrally	assess	sed	natu	ral g	jas
2	companies	having a	major	di	stribution	system	in	this	stat	:e;
3	and									

- 4 (c) centrally assessed companies' allocations except:
- 5 (i) electric power and natural gas companies' 6 property;
- 7 (ii) property owned by cooperative rural electric and 8 cooperative rural telephone associations and classified in 9 class five;
- 10 (iii) property owned by organizations providing
 11 telephone communications to rural areas and classified in
 12 class seven;
- (iv) railroad transportation property included in class
 fifteen; and
- 15 (v) airline transportation property included in class seventeen.
- 17 (2) Class eleven property is taxed at 12% of market value."
- 19 Section 13. Section 15-6-145, MCA, is amended to read:
 20 "15-6-145. Class fifteen property -- description -21 taxable percentage. (1) Class fifteen property includes all
 22 railroad transportation real property and improvements as
 23 described in the Railroad Revitalization and Regulatory
 24 Reform Act of 1976 as it read on January 1, 1986.
- 25 (2) For the taxable year beginning January 1, 1986,

- and for each taxable year thereafter, class fifteen property
 is taxed at the percentage rate "R", to be determined by the
 department as provided in subsection (3), or 12%, whichever
 is less.
 - (3) R = A/B where:

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- (a) A is the total statewide taxable value of all commercial property, except class fifteen property, as commercial property is described in 15-1-101(1)(d), including class 1 and class 2 property; and
- (b) B is the total statewide market value of all commercial property, except class fifteen property, as commercial property is described in 15-1-101(1)(d), including class 1 and class 2 property.
 - (4) (a) For the taxable year beginning January 1, 1986, and for every taxable year thereafter, the department shall conduct a sales assessment ratio study of all commercial and industrial real property and improvements. The study must be based on:
- (i) assessments of such property as of January 1 of the year for which the study is being conducted; and
- (ii) a statistically valid sample of sales using data from realty transfer certificates filed during the same taxable year or from the immediately preceding taxable year, but only if a sufficient number of certificates is unavailable from the current taxable year to provide a

- statistically valid sample.
- 2 (b) The department shall determine the value-weighted
 3 mean sales assessment ratio "M" for all such property and
 4 reduce the taxable value of property described in subsection
 5 (4) only, by multiplying the total statewide taxable value
 6 of property described in subsection (4) by "M" prior to
 7 calculating "A" in subsection (3).
- 8 (c) The adjustment referred to in subsection (4)(b)
 9 will be made beginning January 1, 1986, and in each
 10 subsequent tax year to equalize the railroad taxable values.
- (5) For the purpose of complying with the Railroad 11 12 Revitalization and Regulatory Reform Act of 1976, as it read 13 on January 1, 1986, the rate "R" referred to in this section 14 is the equalized average tax rate generally applicable to commercial and industrial property, except class fifteen 15 16 property, as commercial property is defined in 17 15-1-101(1)(d)."
- Section 14. Section 15-6-147, MCA, is amended to read:

 "15-6-147. Class seventeen property -- description -
 taxable percentage. (1) Class seventeen property includes

 all airline transportation real property and improvements as

 described in the Tax Equity and Fiscal Responsibility Act of

 1982 as it read on January 1, 1986.
- 24 (2) For the taxable years 1986 through 1990 class 25 seventeen property is taxed at 12%, and for each taxable

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1 year thereafter, class seventeen property is taxed at the
2 lesser of 12% or the percentage rate for class fifteen
3 property without adjustment.

- (3) For the purpose of complying with the Tax Equity and Fiscal Responsibility Act of 1982, as it read on January 1, 1986, the rate "R" referred to in this section is the equalized average tax rate generally applicable to commercial and industrial property, except class seventeen property, as commercial property is defined in 15-1-101(1)(d)."
- Section 15. Section 15-6-201, MCA, is amended to read:

 "15-6-201. Exempt categories. (1) The following
 categories of property are exempt from taxation:

14 (a) all personal property;

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- (i) the United States, the state, counties, cities, towns, school districts, except, if congress passes legislation that allows the state to tax property owned by an agency created by congress to transmit or distribute electrical energy, the property constructed, owned, or operated by a public agency created by the congress to transmit or distribute electric energy produced at privately owned generating facilities (not including rural electric cooperatives);
- (ii) irrigation districts organized under the laws of

- Montana and not operating for profit;
- 2 (iii) municipal corporations; and
- 3 (iv) public libraries;
- 4 tb+(c) buildings, with land they occupy and
 5 furnishings--therein improvements thereon, owned by a church
 6 and used for actual religious worship or for residences of
 7 the clergy, together with adjacent land reasonably necessary
 8 for convenient use of such buildings;
- 9 (c)(d) property used exclusively for agricultural and horticultural societies, for educational purposes, and for hospitals;
- 12 (d)(e) property that meets the following conditions:
- 13 (i) is owned and held by any association or 14 corporation organized under Title 35, chapter 2, 3, 20, or 15 21;
- (ii) is devoted exclusively to use in connection with a cemetery or cemeteries for which a permanent care and improvement fund has been established as provided for in Title 35, chapter 20, part 3; and
- 20 (iii) is not maintained and operated for private or 21 corporate profit;
- tff(g) evidence of debt secured by mortgages of record
 upon real or personal property in the state of Montana;
- apon tous of proposity in the state of noncana,
- 25 (g)(h) public art galleries and public observatories

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not used or held for private or corporate profit;

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th)--att-household-goods-and-furniture; --including--but
not-limited-to-clocks; -musical-instruments; -sewing-machines;
and--wearing--apparel--of-members-of-the-family; -used-by-the
owner-for-personal-and-domestic-purposes-or--for--furnishing
or-equipping-the-family-residence;

- (i)--a--truck-canopy-cover-or-topper-weighing-less-than
 300-pounds--and--having--no--accommodations--attached:--Such
 property-is-also-exempt-from-the-fee-in-lieu-of-tax;
- tj)--a--bicycle;--as--defined--in-61-1-123;-used-by-the
 owner-for-personal-transportation-purposes;
- 12 (k)--automobiles-and-trucks-having-a-rated-capacity--of 13 three-quarters-of-a-ton-or-less;
 - fl}--motorcycles-and-quadricycles;
 - (m)(i) fixtures, buildings, and improvements owned by a cooperative association or nonprofit corporation organized to furnish potable water to its members or customers for uses other than the irrigation of agricultural land;
 - (n)(j) the right of entry that is a property right
 reserved in land or received by mesne conveyance (exclusive
 of leasehold interests), devise, or succession to enter land
 whose surface title is held by another to explore, prospect,
 or dig for oil, gas, coal, or minerals;
- 24 (o)(k) property owned and used by a corporation or 25 association organized and operated exclusively for the care

of the developmentally disabled, mentally ill, or vocationally handicapped as defined in 18-5-101, which is not operated for gain or profit; and

- tp;(1) all farm buildings with a market value of less
 than \$500 and-all-agricultural-implements-and-machinery-with
 a-market-value-of-less-than-\$100.
- (2) (a) The term "institutions of purely public charity" includes organizations owning and operating facilities for the care of the retired or aged or chronically ill, which are not operated for gain or profit.
- (b) The terms "public art galleries" and "public observatories" include only those art galleries and observatories, whether of public or private ownership, that are open to the public without charge at all reasonable hours and are used for the purpose of education only.
- 16 (3) The following portions of the appraised value of a
 17 capital investment made after January 1, 1979, in a
 18 recognized nonfossil form of energy generation, as defined
 19 in 15-32-102, are exempt from taxation for a period of 10
 20 years following installation of the property:
- 21 (a) \$20,000 in the case of a single-family residential dwelling;
- 23 (b) \$100,000 in the case of a multifamily residential 24 dwelling or a nonresidential structure. (Subsection (1)(p) 25 [(1)(1)] applicable to taxable years beginning after

December 31, 1985--sec. 4, Ch. 463, L. 1985.)"

Section 16. Section 15-6-203, MCA, is amended to read:

"15-6-203. Veterans' clubhouse exemption -incompetent veterans' trusts. (1) When a clubhouse or
building erected by or belonging to any society or
organization of honorably discharged United States military
personnel is used exclusively for educational, fraternal,
benevolent, or purely public charitable purposes rather than
for gain or profit, together-with-the-library-and-furniture
necessarily-used-in-any--such--building, such property is
exempt from taxation.

- (2) All property,—real-or-personal, in the possession of legal guardians of incompetent veterans of U.S. military service or minor dependents of such veterans, where such property is funds or derived from funds received from the United States as pension, compensation, insurance, adjusted compensation, or gratuity, shall be exempt from all taxation as property of the United States while held by the guardian, but not after title passes to the veteran or minor in his or her own right on account of removal of legal disability."
- Section 17. Section 15-7-102, MCA, is amended to read:

 "15-7-102. Notice of classification and appraisal to
 owners -- appeals. (1) It shall be the duty of the
 department of revenue to cause to be mailed to each owner
 and purchaser under contract for deed a notice of the

- classification of the land owned or being purchased by him
 and the appraisal of the improvements thereon only if one or
 more of the following changes pertaining to the land or
- more or the reasonably enumyed persuanting to the raine t
- 4 improvements have been made since the last notice:
- 5 (a) change in ownership;

- (b) change in classification; or
- 7 (c) change in valuation; or.
- 10 (2) The notice of classification and appraisal
 11 provided by the department under subsection (1) must be on
 12 a standardized form adopted by the department containing
 13 sufficient information in a comprehensible manner designed
 14 to fully inform the taxpayer as to the classification and
 15 appraisal of his property and of changes over the prior tax
 16 year.
 - (3) If the owner of any land and improvements is dissatisfied with the appraisal or classification of his land or improvements, he may submit his objection in writing to the department's agent. The department shall give reasonable notice to such taxpayer of the time and place of hearing and hear any testimony or other evidence which the taxpayer may desire to produce at such time and afford the opportunity to other interested persons to produce evidence at such hearing. Thereafter, the department shall determine

- 1 the true and correct appraisal and classification of such land or improvements and forthwith notify the taxpayer of 2 3 its determination. In the notification, the department must state its reasons for revising the classification or 5 appraisal. When so determined, the land shall be classified and improvements appraised in the manner ordered by the 6 department. 7
- (4) Whether a hearing as provided in subsection (3) is 8 held or not, the department or its agent may not adjust an 9 appraisal or classification upon taxpayer's objection 10 11 unless:
- 12 (a) the taxpayer has submitted his objection in 13 writing; and

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- (b) the department or its agent has stated its reason in writing for making the adjustment.
- (5) A taxpayer's written objection to a classification or appraisal and the department's notification to the taxpayer of its determination and the reason for that determination are public records. Each county appraiser shall make such records available for inspection during regular office hours.
- (6) If any property owner shall feel aggrieved at the 22 classification and/or the appraisal so made by the 23 department, he shall have the right to appeal to the county 24 25 tax appeal board and then to the state tax appeal board.

whose findings shall be final subject to the right of review 1 in the proper court or courts."

Section 18. Section 15-8-104, MCA, is amended to read: 3 "15-8-104. Department audit of taxable value -- costs of audit paid by department. (1) When in the judgment of the director of revenue it is necessary, audits may be made for the purpose of determining the taxable value of net proceeds of mines and oil and gas wells and all other types of property subject to ad valorem taxation.

+2}--The--department-of-revenue-shall-conduct-audits-of the-assessment-of-all-commercial-personal-property-to-assure that-the-value-of-the-property--in--those--classes--reflects market--value;---Because--the--assessed--value-of-commercial personal--property--is--defined--as---market---value---under 15-8-111(2);-the-audits-conducted-by-the-department-shall-be primarily-directed-toward-ensuring-that-all-taxable-personal property-is-reported-to-the-department:

+3+(2) The cost of any audit performed under 18 subsection (1) or-+2+ shall be paid by the department." 19 Section 19. Section 15-8-111, MCA, is amended to read: 20

"15-8-111. Assessment -- market value standard -exceptions. (1) All taxable property must be assessed at 100% of its market value except as otherwise provided in subsection--(5)--of--this--section--and--in-15-7-111-through

25 15-7-114.

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(2) fat Market value is the value at which property would change hands between a willing buyer and a willing seller, neither being under any compulsion to buy or to sell and both having reasonable knowledge of relevant facts.

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- tb)--Except-as-provided-in-subsection-(3),--the--market value--of--all-motor-trucks;-agricultural-tools;-implements; and-machinery;-and-vehicles-of-all-kinds;-including-but--not limited--to--aircraft--and--boats-and-all-watercraft;-is-the average-wholesale-value-shown-in-national--appraisal--guides and---manuals---or---the---value---of---the---vehicle---before reconditioning-and-profit-margin;-The-department-of--revenue shall----prepare--valuation--schedules---showing--the--average wholesale-value-when-no-national-appraisal-quide-exists:
- (3)--The-department-of-revenue-or-its--agents--may--not adopt--a--lower--or--different-standard-of-value-from-market value-in-making-the-official-assessment-and-appraisal-of-the value-of-property-in-15-6-134-through-15-6-140-and--15-6-145 through-15-6-149--except:
- ta)--the--wholesale--value--for-agricultural-implements and-machinery-is-the-loan-value-as--shown--in--the--Official Guide;-Tractor-and-Parm-Equipment;-published-by-the-national farm--and--power--equipment-dealers-association;-St;--bouis; Missouri;-and
- tb)--for--agricultural--implements--and--machinery--not
 listed-in-the-official-guide;-the-department-shall-prepare-a

- supplemental--manual--where--the--values--reflect--the--same
 depreciation-as-those-found-in-the-official-quide-
- 3 (4)(3) For purposes of taxation, assessed value is the same as appraised value.
- four-through-eleven-and-fifteen-through-nineteen is the percentage of market or assessed value established for each class of property in-15-6-134-through-15-6-141-and-15-6-145 through-15-6-149.
- 10 (6)(5) The assessed value of properties in 15-6-131 11 through 15-6-133 if as follows:
- 12 (a) Properties in 15-6-131, under class one, are
 13 assessed at 100% of the annual net proceeds after deducting
 14 the expenses specified and allowed by 15-23-503.
- 15 (b) Properties in 15-6-132, under class two, are 16 assessed at 100% of the annual gross proceeds.
- 17 (c) Properties in 15-6-133, under class three, are
 18 assessed at 100% of the productive capacity of the lands
 19 when valued for agricultural purposes. All lands that meet
 20 the qualifications of 15-7-202 are valued as agricultural
 21 lands for tax purposes.
- 22 (d) Properties in 15-6-143, under class thirteen, are 23 assessed at 100% of the combined appraised value of the 24 standing timber and grazing productivity of the land when 25 valued as timberland.

provided in

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1	(7)(6) Land and the improvements thereon are
2	separately assessed when any of the following conditions
3	occur:
4	(a) ownership of the improvements is different from
5	ownership of the land;
6	(b) the taxpayer makes a written request; or
7	(c) the land is outside an incorporated city or town.
8	(0)Thetaxable-value-of-all-property-in-15-6-131-and
9	classes-two7three7andthirteenisthepercentageof
10	assessedvalueestablishedin15-6-131(2),15-6-132,
11	15-6-1337and15-6-143foreachclassofproperty-
12	(Subsections (3)(a) and (3)(b) [now deleted] applicable to
13	tax years beginning after December 31, 1985sec. 4, Ch.
14	463, L. 1985. Subsection (6)(d) [(5)(d)] and references in
15	(8) [now deleted] to class thirteen and 15-6-143 terminate
16	January 1, 1991sec. 10, Ch. 681, L. 1985.)"
17	Section 20. Section 15-8-201, MCA, is amended to read:
18	"15-8-201. General assessment day. (1) The department
19	of revenue or its agent must, between January 1 and the
20	second Monday of July in each year, ascertain the names of
21	all taxable inhabitants and assess all property subject to
22	taxation in each county. The department or its agent must

1	to taxation under 15-6-134. It must also ascertain and
2	assess all mobile homes arriving in the county after
3	midnight of January 1 next preceding that become an
4	improvement to real property. No mistake in the name of the
5	owner or supposed owner of real property, however, renders
6	the assessment invalid.
7	(2) The procedure provided by this section may not
8	apply to:
9	(a) motor vehicles that-are-required-by-15-8-202-to-be
10	assessed-on-January-1-or-upon-their-anniversary-registration
11	date;
12	(b)automobiles-and-trucks-having-a-rated-capacityof
13	three-quarters-of-a-ton-or-less;
14	(c)(b) motor homes and travel trailers subject to a
15	fee in lieu of property tax;
16	<pre>(d)(c) motorcycles and quadricycles;</pre>
17	(e)livestock;
18	(f)(d) property defined in 61-1-104 as "special mobile
19	equipment" thatissubjecttoassessmentforpersonal
20	propertytaxesonthe-date-that-application-is-made-for-a
21	special-mobile-equipment-plate; and
22	(g)(e) mobile homes held by a distributor or dealer of
23	mobile homes as a part of his stock in trade.

assess property to the person by whom it was owned or

claimed or in whose possession or control it was at midnight

of January 1 next preceding if the property becomes subject

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(3) Credits must be assessed as

15-1-101(1)(f)."

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Section 21. Section 15-8-301, MCA, is amended to read:
"15-8-301. Statement — what to contain. (1) The
department of revenue or its agent must require from each
person a statement under oath setting forth specifically all
the real and—personal property and improvements owned by
such person or in his possession or under his control at
midnight on January 1. Such statement must be in writing,
showing separately:

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- 9 (a) all property belonging to, claimed by, or in the
 10 possession or under the control or management of such
 11 person;
- 12 (b) all property belonging to, claimed by, or in the 13 possession or under the control or management of any firm of 14 which such person is a member;
 - (c) all property belonging to, claimed by, or in the possession or under the control or management of any corporation of which such person is president, secretary, cashier, or managing agent;
 - (d) the county in which such property is situated or in which it is liable to taxation and (if liable to taxation in the county in which the statement is made) also the city, town, school district, road district, or other revenue districts in which it is situated;
- (e) an exact description of all lands in parcels or
 subdivisions not exceeding 640 acres each and the sections

and fractional sections of all tracts of land containing more than 640 acres which have been sectionized by the United States government; improvements and --- personal property; --- including --- all -- vessels; -- steamers; -- and -- other watercraft; all--taxable--state; --county; --city; --or--other municipal--or--public--bonds--and--the--taxable-bonds-of-any persony-firmy-or-corporation-and-deposits--of--moneyy---gold dusty--or--other-valuables-and-the-names-of-the-persons-with 9 whom-such-deposits-are-made-and-the-places-in-which-they-may be-found; all mortgages, deeds of trust, contracts, and 10 11 other obligations by which a debt is secured and the taxable property in the county affected thereby; 12

(f)--all--solvent-credits;-secured-or-unsecured;-due-or
owing-to-such-person-or-any-firm-of-which-he-is-a-member--or
due--or--owing--to-any-corporation-of-which-he-is-president;
secretary;-cashier;-or-managing-agent;

tgf(f) all depots, shops, stations, buildings, and
other structures erected on the space covered by the
right-of-way and all other <u>taxable</u> property owned by any
person owning or operating any railroad within the county.

(2) Whenever one member of a firm or one of the proper officers of a corporation has made a statement showing the property of the firm or corporation, another member of the firm or another officer need not include such property in the statement made by him but this statement must show the

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1 name of the person or officer who made the statement in
2 which such property is included.

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- (3) The fact that such statement is not required or that a person has not made such statement, under oath or otherwise, does not relieve his property from taxation."
- Section 22. Section 15-8-407, MCA, is amended to read:

 "15-8-407. Railroads and other franchises. (1) The franchise, roadway, roadbed, rails, roiling-stock; and all other operating taxable property of all railroads operated in more than one county or more than one state must be assessed by the department of revenue as hereinafter provided.
 - (2) Other franchises, if granted by the authorities of a county or city, must be assessed in the county or city within which they were granted; if granted by any other authority, they must be assessed in the county in which the corporations, firms, or persons owning or holding them have their principal place of business."
- 19 Section 23. Section 15-8-701, MCA, is amended to read:
 20 "15-8-701. Assessment book -- definition -- listing
 21 property in. (1) Unless the context clearly indicates
 22 otherwise, the term "assessment book" means the record kept
 23 in each county by the agent of the department of revenue and
 24 which contains the information described in subsection (3).
 25 The term includes, in a county wherein the assessment book

- is kept on a computer system, the information on the system
 analogous to the information described in subsection (3).
- 3 (2) The form of the assessment book must be as4 directed by the department.
 - (3) The department must prepare an assessment book with appropriate headings, alphabetically arranged, in which must be listed all property within the state and in which must be specified, in separate columns under the appropriate head:
- 10 (a) the name of the person to whom the property is
 11 assessed:
- 12 (b) land, by township, range, section or fractional
 13 section, and when such land is not a United States land
 14 division or subdivision, by metes and bounds or other
 15 description sufficient to identify it, giving an estimate of
 16 the number of acres, not exceeding in each and every tract
 17 640 acres, locality, and the improvements thereon;
- 18 (c) city and town lots, naming the city or town and
 19 the number of the lot and block, according to the system of
 20 numbering in such city or town, and the value of same with
 21 improvements thereon;
 - (d) all taxable personal——property improvements, showing the number, kind, amount, and quality; but a failure to enumerate in detail such personal property does not invalidate the assessment;

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- - (f) the assessed value of city and town lots with improvements thereon, except that a lot and improvements thereon shall be separately listed when required under 15-8-111;
 - (g) the assessed value of improvements on real estate assessed to persons other than the owners of the real estate. Taxable improvements owned by a person, located upon land exempt from taxation, shall, as to the manner of assessment, be assessed as other real estate upon the assessment roll. No value, however, may be assessed against the exempt land, nor under any circumstances may the land be charged with or become responsible for the assessment made against any taxable improvements located thereon.
- 16 (h)--the---assessed---value--of--all--taxable--personal property;
 - $(\pm i)(h)$ the school, road, and other revenue districts in which each piece of property assessed is situated;
 - (i) the total assessed value of all property."
- 21 Section 24. Section 15-8-706, MCA, is amended to read:
- 22 "15-8-706. Statement by agent to the department. (1)
- On the second Monday in July in each year, the agent of the
- 24 department of revenue in each county must transmit to the
- 25 department a statement showing:,

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- 2 (b)--the-average-and-total-value-of-each-kind;
- 6 (d) when practicable, the separate value of each class
 7 of land, specifying the classes and the number of acres in
 8 each.
 - (2) An agent of the department who purposely or negligently fails to perform his duty under this section or a deputy or member of the agent's staff delegated such duty who purposely or regligently fails to perform such duty is quilty of official misconduct under 45-7-401."
- 14 Section 25. Section 15-10-105, MCA, is amended to read:
 - "15-10-105. Tax levy for the university system. There is levied upon the taxable value of all real and-personal property in the state of Montana, subject to taxation, 6 mills or so much thereof as is necessary to raise the amount appropriated by the legislature from the state special revenue fund for the support, maintenance, and improvement of the Montana university system and other public educational institutions subject to board of regents' supervision, as provided in referendum measure No. 75 passed by vote of the people at the general election held November

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- 7, 1978; and the funds raised therefrom shall be deposited
 in the state special revenue fund."
- 3 Section 26. Section 15-10-302, MCA, is amended to 4 read:
- 5 "15-10-302. County clerk -- duplicate statement. The 6 county clerk and recorder shall, on or before the second 7 Monday in August of each year, prepare from the assessment 8 book of such year, as corrected by the department of revenue 9 or its agent, duplicate statements showing in separate
- 11 (1) the total value of all property;

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columns:

- (2) the value of real estate, including mining claims,stated separately;
- 14 (3) the value of the improvements thereon;
- 16 (5)(4) the number of acres of land and the number of mining claims, stated separately."
- 18 Section 27. Section 15-16-117, MCA, is amended to 19 read:
- 20 "15-16-117. Personal----property------treasurer's
 21 Treasurer's duty to collect certain taxes on. (1) The county
 22 treasurer must demand payment of poor taxes, authorized by
 23 53-2-321, and road taxes, authorized by 7-14-2206 or
 24 7-14-2501 through 7-14-2504, of every person liable therefor

- the neglect or refusal of such person to pay the same, he
 must collect by seizure and sale of any taxable property
 owned by such person.
- 4 (2) These taxes shall be added upon the assessment
 5 lists to other taxes of persons liable therefor paying taxes
 6 upon real and-personal property and paid to the county
 7 treasurer at the time of payment of other taxes, and all
 8 personal property assessed against a person shall be liable
 9 for the payment of such taxes.
- 10 (3)--The-procedure-for-the-sale-of-such-property-by-the
 11 county-treasurer--for--such--taxes--shall--be--regulated--by
 12 15-16-113-and-chapter-177-part-97"
- 13 Section 28. Section 15-16-611, MCA, is amended to 14 read:
 - "15-16-611. Reduction of property tax for property destroyed by natural disaster. (1) The department of revenue shall, upon showing by a taxpayer that some or all of the improvements on his real property or--a--trailer--or--mobile home-as-described-in-15-6-142 have been destroyed to such an extent that such improvements have been rendered unsuitable for their previous use by natural disaster, adjust the taxable value on the property, accounting for the destruction.
- 24 (2) The county treasurer shall adjust the tax due and 25 payable for the current year on the property under 15-16-102

whose name does not appear on the assessment lists, and on

1 as provided in subsection (3) of this section.

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- (3) To determine the amount of tax due for destroyed property, the county treasurer shall:
 - (a) multiply the amount of tax levied and assessed on the original taxable value of the property for the year by the ratio that the number of days in the year that the property existed before destruction bears to 365; and
- (b) multiply the amount of tax levied and assessed on the adjusted taxable value of the property for the remainder of the year by the ratio that the number of days remaining in the year after the destruction of the property bears to 365.
- (4) This section does not apply to delinquent taxes owed on the destroyed property for a year prior to the year in which the property was destroyed.
- 16 (5) For the purposes of this section, "natural disaster" includes but is not limited to fire, flood, large earthquake, or wind."
- 19 Section 29. Section 15-18-103, MCA, is amended to 20 read:
 - "15-18-103. Piecemeal redemption of land sold for taxes. (1) Whenever any person shall desire to redeem from a tax sale and pay all subsequent taxes upon any lot, piece, or parcel of real estate which said person shall own or hold a mortgage or other lien against or when such person shall

- be the owner of or have some interest in such property, it
 shall be the duty of the county treasurer of the county in
 which such real estate is situated to permit such redemption
 and payment. In case the real estate shall have been
 assessed and sold, together with other real estate, or in
 case the tax assessed against any other property shall be a
 lien thereon, then it shall be the duty of said county
 treasurer to compute and apportion the tax that should have
 properly been assessed against the real estate sought to be
- 12 (2)--Any--personal--property--tax--which-is-a-lien-upon
 13 said-real-estate-shall-be-likewise-computed-and--apportioned
 14 on-the-same-percentage-basis-as-the-tax-assessed-against-the
 15 real-estate-is-apportioned:"

same as if said property had been separately assessed.

redeemed and upon which the taxes are sought to be paid the

- 16 Section 30. Section 15-18-205, MCA, is amended to 17 read:
- 18 "15-18-205. Form of tax deed -- prima facie evidence.
- 19 (1) The form of a tax deed of an estate in real property,
- 20 executed by a county treasurer, may be made in substance as
- 21 follows:

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- 22 This indenture, made by and between (insert name
- of treasurer), county treasurer of the county of
- 24 (insert name of county), in the state of Montana, the party
- of the first part, and (insert name of grantee), the

1	party of the second part, witnesseth:
2	Whereas, there was assessed for the year (insert
3	year) in the name of (insert name) that certain tract
4	of land hereinafter described, and the taxes for said year
5	levied against said property amounted to the sum of
6	(insert amount) dollars; and
7	Whereas, said taxes were not paid and said property was
8	sold for the payment of said taxes to (insert name of
9	grantee) on the (insert day) of (insert month),
10	A.D (insert year) for the sum of (insert amount)
11	dollars and certificates of sale were duly issued and filed
12	as required by law; and
13	Whereas, no redemption from said sale has been made and
14	the said grantee has given the necessary notice of
15	application for tax deed as required by law;
16	Now, therefore, I, (insert name of treasurer),
17	county treasurer of the county of (insert name of
18	county), in the state of Montana, for and in consideration
19	of the sum of (insert amount) dollars paid do grant to
20	(insert name of grantee) all the property situated in
21	(insert name of county) County, state of Montana,
22	described as follows: (here insert description of the
23	land sold for taxes and sought to be conveyed).
24	Witness my hand this (insert day) day of
25	(insert month), A.D (insert year).

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2	County treasurer of County
3	State of Montana
4	(2) A tax deed executed in the form as provided in
5	this section, when duly acknowledged and proved, is prima
6	facie evidence that:
7	(a) the property was assessed as required by law;
8	(b) the property was equalized as required by law;
9	(c) the taxes were levied in accordance with law;
10	(d) the taxes were not paid;
11	(e) notice of tax sale was given and published and
12	property sold at the proper time and place as prescribed by
13	law;
14	(f) the property was not redeemed, and the proper
15	notice of application for deed has been served or posted as
16	required by law;
17	(g) the person who executed the deed was the proper
18	officer;
19	(h)wheretherealestatewas-sold-to-pay-taxes-on
20	personal-property,-the-real-estate-belongedtotheperson
21	liable-to-pay-the-tax."
22	Section 31. Section 15-18-305, MCA, is amended to
23	read:
24	"15-18-305. Defense to action redemption of

parcels. Any defendant may appear in the action within the

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time provided by law for appearances in civil actions, may set up any defense to the action he may have, and may therein question the legality, validity, or the sufficiency of any act had in connection with the assessment or sale of the land. Any defendant to the action may make redemption of the lands from the tax sale by paying the total amount of delinguent taxes and penalties which plaintiff has paid, with interest thereon at 8% a year from date of payment, together with costs of the action. Upon such payment, a certificate of redemption must be issued by the county 10 11 treasurer to the defendant so paying, and thereupon the action must be dismissed. Whenever a defendant desires to 12 13 redeem from a tax sale and pay all subsequent taxes upon any 14 lot. piece, or parcel of real estate which such defendant 15 owns or holds a mortgage or other lien against or has any 16 interest in, the county treasurer of the county in which such real estate is situated shall permit such redemption 17 and payment. In case the real estate has been assessed 18 against any other property and is a lien thereon, then the 19 county treasurer shall compute and apportion the tax that 20 should have properly been assessed against the real estate 21 sought to be redeemed and upon which the taxes are sought to 22 23 be paid, the same as if the property had been separately assessed. Any-personal-property-tax-which--is--a--lien--upon 24 25 such--real--estate-must-be-likewise-computed-and-apportioned

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- on-the-same-percentage-basis-as-the-tax-assessed-against-the real-estate-is-apportioned;"
- Section 32. Section 15-23-101, MCA, is amended to 3 read:
- assessed. The centrally "15-23-101. Properties 5 department of revenue shall centrally assess each year:
- (1) the franchise, roadway, roadbeds, rails, rolling 7 stock, and all other operating taxable property of railroads operating in more than one county in the state or more than q 10 one state;
 - (2) property owned by a corporation or other person operating a single and continuous property operated in more than one county or more than one state, including telegraph, telephone, microwave, electric power or transmission lines; natural gas or oil pipelines; canals, ditches, flumes, or like properties and including, if congress passes legislation that allows the state to tax property owned by an agency created by congress to transmit or distribute electrical energy, property constructed, owned, or operated by a public agency created by the congress to transmit or distribute electric energy produced at privately owned generating facilities (not including rural electric cooperatives);
- (3) all taxable property of scheduled airlines; 24
- (4) the net proceeds of mines and of oil and gas 25

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- (5) the gross proceeds of coal mines; and
- 3 (6) property described in subsections (1) and (2) which is subject to the provisions of Title 15, chapter 24, 4 5 part 12."
- Section 33. Section 15-23-103, MCA, is amended to 6 7 read:
- 8 "15-23-103. Due date of reports and returns -extensions. (1) Except as provided in subsection (2) and 9 10 15-23-602, each report or return described in 15-23-301, $\pm 5-23-4027$ 15-23-502, or 15-23-701 shall be delivered to the 11 department on or before March 31 each year. 12
- 13 (2) Each report or return for a natural gas or oil pipeline described in 15-23-301 must be delivered to the 14 department on or before April 15 each year. 15
 - (3) Each report described in 15-23-201 shall be delivered to the department before April 15 each year.
 - (4) The department may for good cause extend the time for filing a return or report for not more than 30 days."
- 20 Section 34. Section 15-23-105, MCA, is amended to read: 21
- 22 "15-23-105. Apportionment among counties. department shall apportion the value of property assessed 23 24 under 15-23-1017 or 15-23-202 or--15-23-403 among the counties in which such property is located. Apportionment 25

shall be on a mileage basis or on the basis of the original 2 installed cost of the centrally assessed property located in the respective counties. If the property is of such a character that its value cannot reasonably be apportioned on the basis of mileage or on the basis of the original installed cost of the centrally assessed property located in the respective counties, the department may adopt such other 7 method or basis of apportionment as may be just or proper." 9 Section 35. Section 15-23-106, MCA, is amended to

- "15-23-106. Transmission to the counties. (1) On or 11 before July 1, the department shall transmit to its agent in 12 each county a statement listing: 13
- (a) the assessed value of railroad property, as determined under 15-23-202, apportioned to the county, including the length or other description of such property: 16
 - (b) the assessed value of utility property, determined under 15-23-303, apportioned to the county, including the length or other description of such property;
 - (c) the assessed value of property of airline companies; -as-determined-under-15-23-403; apportioned to the county; 90% of the value of the property of airline companies apportioned to any county by reason of a state airport being located in the county shall be stated separately from the remaining assessed value of the property

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- of airline companies apportioned to the county;
- 2 (d) the assessed value of the net proceeds and royalties from mines and oil and gas wells in the county, as determined under 15-23-503, 15-23-505, 15-23-603, and 15-23-605; and
- 6 (e) the assessed value of the gross proceeds from coal 7 mines, as described in 15-23-701.
- 8 (2) The agent of the department shall enter the 9 assessed values so transmitted in the assessment book in a 10 manner prescribed by the department."
- 11 Section 36. Section 15-23-201, MCA, is amended to read:

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- "15-23-201. Assessment of railroads. The president, secretary, or managing agent or such other officer as the department of revenue may designate of any corporation and each person or association of persons owning or operating any railroad in more than one county in this state or more than one state must on or before April 15 each year furnish the department a statement signed and sworn to by one of such officers or by the person or one of the persons forming such association, showing in detail for the year ending December 31 immediately preceding:
- 23 (1) the whole number of miles of railroad in the state 24 and, where the line is partly out of the state, the whole 25 number of miles without the state and the whole number

- within the state, owned or operated by such corporation, person, or association;
- 3 (2) the value of the roadway, roadbed, and rails of 4 the whole railroad and the value of the same within the 5 state:
 - (3) the width of the right-of-way;
- 7 (4)--the--number-of-each-kind-of-all-rolling-stock-used 8 by-such-corporation;-person;-or-association-in-operating-the 9 entire-railroad;-including-the-part-without-the-state;
- 10 (5)--the-number,-kind,-and-value-of-rolling-stock-owned 11 and-operated-in-the-state;
- 12 (6)--the-number,-kind,-and-value-of-rolling-stock--used 13 in--the-state-but-not-owned-by-the-party-making-the-returns;
- 18 (8)(4) the whole number of sidetracks in each county,
 19 including the number of miles of track in each railroad yard
 20 in the state;
 - (9)--the--number--of-each-kind-of-rolling-stock-used-in operating-the-entire-railroad;-including--the--part--without the--state;--which--must-include-a-detailed-statement-of-the number-and-value-thereof-of-all--engines;--passenger;--mail; express;-baggage;-freight;-and-other-cars;-or-property-owned

or-leased-by-such-corporation;-person;-or-association;

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(10)-the--number--of-sleeping-and-dining-cars-not-owned by-such-corporation;-person;-or--association--but--used--in operating--the--railroads--of--such--corporation;-person;-or association-in-the-state-or-on-the-line-of-the-road--without the-state-during-each-month-of-the-year-for-which-the-return is--made;--aiso-the-number-of-miles-each-month-the-cars-have been-run-or-operated-within-and-without-the-state;

(111)(5) a description of the road, giving the points of entrance into and the points of exit from each county, with a statement of the number of miles in each county. When a description of the road has once been given, no other annual description thereof is necessary unless the road has been changed. Whenever the road or any portion of the road is advertised to be sold or is sold for taxes, either state or county, no other description is necessary than that given by, and the same is conclusive upon, the person, corporation, or association giving the description. No assessment is invalid on account of a misdescription of the railroad or the right-of-way for the same. If such statement is not furnished as above provided, the assessment made by the department upon the property of the corporation, person, or association failing to furnish the statement is conclusive and final.

(12)(6) the gross earnings of the entire road;

1 (+3)(7) the gross earnings of the road within the 2 state and, if the railroad is let to other operators, how 3 much was derived by the lessor as rental;

4 (147(8) the cost of operating the entire road,
5 exclusive of sinking fund, expenses of land department, and
6 money paid to the United States;

7 (±5)(9) net income for such year and amount of dividend declared;

9 (16)(10) capital stock authorized;

10 (17)(11) capital stock paid in;

11 (18)(12) funded debt;

12 (19)(13) number of shares authorized;

13 (20)(14) number of shares of stock issued;

14 $(2\pm)(15)$ any other facts the department may require." 15 Section 37. Section 15-23-202, MCA, is amended to

read:

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"15-23-202. Assessment -- how made. (1) The department must assess the franchise, roadway, roadbed, rails, rolling stock; and all other operating taxable properties of all railroads operated in more than one county or more than one state. All-rolling-stock-must-be-assessed-in-the-name-of-the person-owning; leasing; or using-the-same; -- Assessment--must be--made--to--the-person-owning-or-leasing-or-using-the-same and-must-be-made-upon-the-entire-railroad-within-the--state. The depots, stations, shops, and buildings erected upon the

space covered by the right-of-way and all other <u>taxable</u> property owned or leased by such person, except as above provided, shall be assessed by the department.

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- (2) In determining the taxable value of railroad property, the department shall determine the percentage rate "R" provided for in 15-6-145 in order to achieve compliance with the requirements of the federal Railroad Revitalization and Regulatory Reform Act of 1976, as amended."
- 9 Section 38. Section 15-23-501, MCA, is amended to read:
 - "15-23-501. Taxation of mines. All mines and mining claims, both placer and rock in place, containing or bearing gold, silver, copper, lead, coal, or other valuable mineral deposits, after purchase thereof from the United States, shall be taxed as all other land is taxed. All machinery used---in---mining---and---all real property and surface improvements upon or appurtenant to mines and mining claims which have a value separate and independent of such mines or mining claims and the annual net proceeds of all mines and mining claims shall be taxed as-other-personal-property."
- 21 Section 39. Section 15-23-503, MCA, is amended to 22 read:
- 23 "15-23-503. Net proceeds -- how computed. (1) The 24 department of revenue shall calculate from the returns the 25 gross product yielded from such mine and its gross value for

- the year covered by the statement and shall calculate and
- 2 compute the net proceeds of the mine yielded to the person
- 3 engaged in mining. Net proceeds shall be determined by
- 4 subtracting from the value of the gross product thereof the
- following:
- (a) all royalty paid or apportioned in cash or in kind by the person so engaged in mining;
- 8 (b) all moneys expended for necessary labor,
- 9 machinery, and supplies needed and used in the mining
- 10 operations and developments;
- 11 (c) all moneys expended for improvements, repairs, and
- 12 betterments necessary in and about the working of the mine,
- 13 except as hereinafter provided;
- 14 (d) all moneys expended for costs of repairs and
- 15 replacements of the milling and reduction works used in
- 16 connection with the mine;
- 17 (e) depreciation in the sum of 6% of the assessed
- 18 valuation of such milling and reduction works for the
- 19 calendar year for which such return is made;
- 20 (f) all moneys actually expended for transporting the
- 21 ores and mineral products or deposits from the mines to the
- 22 mill or reduction works or to the place of sale and for
- 23 extracting the metals and minerals therefrom and for
 - marketing the product and the conversion of the same into
- 25 money;

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(g) all moneys expended for insurance and welfare and retirement costs reported in the statement required in 15-23-502:

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- (h) all moneys expended for necessary labor, equipment, and supplies for testing minerals extracted to satisfy federal or state health and safety laws or regulations, for plant security in Montana, for assaying and sampling the extracted minerals, for the cost of reclamation at the site of the mine, and for engineering and geological services conducted in Montana for existing mining operations but not including any such services beyond the stage of reduction and beneficiation of the minerals.
- (2) In computing the deductions allowable for repairs, improvements, and betterments to the mine, the department shall allow 10% of such cost each year for a period of 10 years.
- (3) No moneys invested in mines or improvements may be allowed as a deduction unless all machinery7-equipment7—and buildings improvements represented by such moneys are returned to the county in which such mine is located for assessment purposes at the level of assessment of all other property in such county.
- (4) No moneys invested in the mines and improvements during any year except the year for which such statement is made and except as provided in this section may be included

- in such expenditures, and such expenditures may not include
 the salaries or any portion thereof of any person or officer
 not actually engaged in the working of the mine or
 superintending the management thereof."
- 5 Section 40. Section 15-23-504, MCA, is amended to 6 read:
 - "15-23-504. Lien of tax and penalty. The tax and penalty so assessed on net proceeds are a lien upon all of the right, title, and interest of such operator in or to such mine or mining claim and upon all of the right, title, and interest in or to the machinery,-buildings,--tools,--and equipment improvements used in operating the mine or mining claim. The tax and penalty on such net proceeds may be collected and the payment enforced by the seizure and sale of the personal property upon which the tax and penalty are a lien in--the--same--manner-as-other-personal-property-is seized-and-sold-for-delinguent-taxes-or-by-the-sale--of--the mine--and--improvements, as provided for the sale of real property for delinquent taxes, or by the institution of a civil action for its collection in any court of competent jurisdiction. Resort to any one of the methods of enforcing collection shall not bar the right to resort to either or both of the other methods, but any two or all of the methods may be used until the full amount of such tax and penalty is collected."

Section 41. Section 15-23-508, MCA, is amended to read:

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"15-23-508. Lien of tax -- enforcement of payment. (1) The taxes on such net proceeds must be levied as the levy of other taxes is provided for, and every such tax is a lien upon the mine or mining claim from which the ore or mineral products or deposits are mined or extracted and is a prior lien upon all personal-property-and improvements used in the process of extracting such ore or mineral products or deposits, provided such personal-or real property is owned by or under lease by the person who extracted said ore, mineral products, or deposits.

(2) The tax on such net proceeds may be collected and the payment thereof enforced by the seizure and sale of the personal—property—upon—which—the—tax—is—a-lien—in—the—same manner—as—other—personal—property—is—seized—and—sold—for delinquent—taxes—or—by—the—sale—of—the mine or mining claim and improvements, as provided for the sale of real property for delinquent taxes, or by the institution of a civil action for its collection in any court of competent jurisdiction. A resort to any one of the methods of enforcing collection as herein provided for shall not bar the right to resort to either—or—both—of the other methods—but—any—two—or—all—of—the—methods—herein—provided—for—may—be used—until—the—full—amount—of—such—tax—is—collected method."

1 Section 42. Section 15-23-522, MCA, is amended to
2 read:

3 "15-23-522. Surface ground and improvements not
4 exempt. Nothing in this part must be construed so as to
5 exempt from taxation the surface ground, improvements,
6 buildings, erections, or structures,—or—machinery placed
7 upon any mine or mining claim or used in connection
8 therewith or supplies used either in mills, reduction works,
9 or mines."

10 Section 43. Section 15-23-608, MCA, is amended to 11 read:

"15-23-608. Lien of tax and penalty -- enforcement of payment. (1) The taxes and/or penalties on such net proceeds must be levied as the levy of other taxes is provided for. Every such tax and/or penalty is a lien upon the mine from which the natural gas, petroleum, or crude or mineral oil is mined or extracted and is a prior lien upon all personal property--and improvements used in the process of extracting such natural gas, petroleum, or crude or mineral oil; provided, however, that such personal-or-real property is owned by or under lease by the person who extracted said natural gas, petroleum, or other crude or mineral oil.

(2) The tax and/or penalty on such net proceeds may be collected and the payment thereof enforced by the seizure and sale of-the-personal-property-upon-which-the-tax--and/or

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penalty--is-a-lien--in--the--same-manner-as-other-personal property-is-seized-and-sold-for-delinquent-taxes-or--by--the sale of the mine and improvements as provided for the sale of real property for delinquent taxes or by the institution of a civil action for its collection in any court of competent jurisdiction; provided; however, that a A resort to any one of the methods of enforcing collection, as herein provided for, shall not bar the right to resort to either-or both--of the other-methods-but-that-any-two-or-all-of-the methods-herein-provided-for--may--be--used--until--the--full amount-of-such-tax-and/or-penalty-is-collected method."

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12 Section 44. Section 15-23-7, MCA, is amended to read:

"15-23-611. Surface ground and improvements not exempt. Nothing in this part must be construed so as to exempt from taxation the surface ground, improvements, buildings, erections, or structures,—or-machinery placed upon any mine or-supplies-used-in-connection-therewith."

Section 45. Section 15-23-704, MCA, is amended to read:

"15-23-704. Lien of tax -- enforcement of payment. The tax on gross proceeds from coal shall be levied as taxes on other forms of property, and this tax and the severance tax on coal production are each a lien upon the coal mine and a prior lien upon all personal-property-and improvements used

1 to produce the coal. These taxes may be collected by the

seizure and sale of the personal property on which the tax

3 is a lien as-provided-under-15-16-113-and-chapter-17,-part

4 97 or by suit under 15-16-501 and 15-16-502."

5 Section 46. Section 15-23-806, MCA, is amended to

read:

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7 "15-23-806. Lien of tax. The tax or penalty on gross

8 proceeds is a lien upon the mine from which the metal is

9 extracted and is a prior lien upon all owned or leased

10 personal taxable property and improvements used in

11 extracting the ore or metal. The tax shall be collected in

12 the manner provided in chapters 16, 17, and 18 of this

13 title."

14 Section 47. Section 15-24-601, MCA, is amended to

15 read:

16 "15-24-601. Assessment and taxation of insurance

17 companies. Every insurance company organized under the laws

18 of the state shall be assessed and taxed upon its real

19 estate and personal-property improvements at the same rate

20 and in the same manner as other property is assessed and

21 taxed in this state."

Section 48. Section 15-24-701, MCA, is amended to

23 read:

24 "15-24-701, Production credit associations --

25 assessment and payment. Every production credit association

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organized under the provisions of section 1131d of Title 12,
United States Codes Annotated, shall be assessed for and pay
taxes upon all real and-personal property and improvements
owned by such association."

Section 49. Section 15-24-801, MCA, is amended to read:

"15-24-801. Savings and loan associations -- taxation. 7 Every savings and loan association subject to regulation 8 under Title 32, chapter 2, shall be assessed for and pay 9 10 taxes upon all real and-personal property and improvements owned by the association. The secretary of an association 11 12 shall furnish to the department of revenue or its agent in 13 the county in which the principal office of the association 14 is located, within 5 days after demand, a condensed 15 statement verified by his oath of the resources and 16 liabilities of the association as disclosed by its books at 17 noon on January 1 in each year. If the secretary fails to 18 make the statement hereby required, the department or its 19 agent shall immediately obtain the information from any other available source, and for this purpose it shall have 20 21 access to the books of the association. The department or 22 its agent shall thereupon make an assessment of the real 23 estate and personal--property improvements owned by the association, which assessment shall be as fair and equitable 24 25 as it may be able to make from the best information

1 available; or the assessor may, for the purpose of the
2 assessment, adopt the figures disclosed by any prior report
3 made by the association to any state or federal officer

4 under a state or federal law. A person required by this

section to make the statement provided for in this section
who fails to furnish it is quilty of a misdemeanor."

7 Section 50. Section 15-24-1001, MCA, is amended to 8 read:

"15-24-1001. Custom combiner's tax -- collection -- distribution -- not transferable. (1) In lieu of the--taxes required--by--15-24-301-and-in-lieu-of motor vehicle license fees, gross vehicle weight fees, and overwidth and overheight permits provided for in Title 61, a nonresident engaged in the business of custom combining who brings equipment into the state shall pay a fee of \$40 per unit. A unit shall include:

- (a) one truck suitable for hauling grain;
- (b) one header trailer or one combine trailer; and
- 19 (c) pickup trucks and all other equipment, except
 20 combines, used by a nonresident and brought into the state
 21 as part of his business of custom combining.
 - (2) In lieu of gross vehicle weight fees and overwidth and overheight permits, Montana residents engaged in the business of custom combining may pay the annual farm gross vehicle weight fees and a fee of \$20 per unit. A unit

includes:

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- (a) one truck suitable for hauling grain;
- 3 (b) one header trailer or one combine trailer; and
 - (c) pickup trucks used by the resident in his business of custom combining.
 - by the department of highways. Upon payment of the fee, the department of highways must provide an identifying device to be displayed on each truck, header trailer, or combine trailer and other equipment used by the nonresident or resident in his business of custom combining in the state, which device is valid for the calendar year in which the fee is collected.
 - (4) All fees collected under this section must be distributed not later than January 31 immediately following the period of license as follows: 62 1/2% to the county general fund in the county in which the permittee declares the greatest amount of time will be spent to operate, 37 1/2% to the state special revenue fund for the department of highways.
 - (5) The identifying devices and fee paid for each unit are not transferable from one vehicle to another or transferable on the sale or change of ownership.
- 24 (6) Any owner or operator of any equipment included in 25 the unit definition in subsection (1) or (2) of this section

- who violates any provision of this section is guilty of a
- 2 misdemeanor and punishable by a fine of not more than \$300
- 3 or by a sentence of not more than 60 days in the county
- 4 jail, or both."
- 5 Section 51. Section 15-24-1101, MCA, is amended to
- 6 read:
- 7 "15-24-1101. Federal property held under contract by
- B private person subject to taxation. Real and/or-personal
- 9 property and improvements of the United States or any
- 10 department or agency thereof held under contract of sale,
- lease, or other interest or estate therein by any person for
- 12 his exclusive use shall be subject to assessment for ad
- valorem property taxation as provided in this part; provided
- 14 that this part shall not apply to real property and
- 15 improvements held and in immediate use and occupation by
- 16 this state or any county, municipal corporation, or
- 17 political subdivision therein."
- 18 Section 52. Section 15-24-1104, MCA, is amended to
- 19 read:
- 20 "15-24-1104, Collection of taxes on interests in
- 21 United States lands. In addition to all other remedies
- 22 available for the collection of taxes, all taxes levied in
- 23 any year against property held as under the provisions of
- 24 this part shall be a debt due and owing from the person so
- 25 holding such property as of the date of delinquency for

taxes on property for such tax year. If any such tax be not paid within 1 year from such date, the county within which such property is located may institute for itself, the state of Montana, and all other municipal corporations sharing in such taxes an action for the collection of said taxes, together with interest, costs, and other lawful charges thereon. At the time of commencement of such action, the county shall have the benefit of all laws of this state pertaining to provisional remedies against the taxable properties, either-real-or-personal, of said the person."

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Section 53. Section 15-24-1203, MCA, is amended to read:

"15-24-1203. Privilege tax on gainful use of

tax-exempt property -- exceptions. After March 17, 1969, there is imposed and shall be collected a tax upon the possession or other beneficial use enjoyed by any private individual, association, or corporation of any property, real or-personal, property and improvements which for any reason is are exempt from taxation. No tax may be imposed upon the possession or other beneficial use of buildings owned by public entities and located upon public airports. However, privately owned buildings located on such airport property are subject to tax. No tax shall be imposed upon the possession or other beneficial use of public lands occupied under the terms of mineral, timber, or grazing

1 leases or permits issued by the United States or the state

of Montana or upon any easement unless the lease, permit, or

3 easement entitles the lessee or permittee to exclusive

possession of the premises to which the lease, permit, or

5 easement relates. The tax shall be imposed upon the

possession or other beneficial use of an electric

7 transmission line and associated facilities, except that

8 lines and facilities of a design capacity of less than 500

9 kilovolts shall not be subject to the tax."

10 Section 54. Section 20-15-403, MCA, is amended to

11 read:

12 "20-15-403. Applications of other school district

13 provisions. (1) When the term "school district" appears in

14 the following sections outside of Title 20, the term

15 includes community college districts and the provisions of

16 those sections applicable to school districts apply to

17 community college districts: 2-9-101, 2-9-111, 2-9-316,

18 2-16-114, 2-16-602, 2-16-614, 2-18-703, 7-3-1101, 7-6-2604,

19 7-6-2801, 7-7-123, 7-8-2214, 7-8-2215, 7-8-2216, 7-11-103,

20 7-12-4106, 7-13-110, 7-13-210, 7-15-4206, 10-1-703,

21 15-1-101, 15-6-204, 15-16-101, 15-16-601, 15-18-108,

22 15-55-106, 15-70-301, 15-70-322, 17-5-101, 17-5-202,

23 17-6-103, 17-6-204, 17-6-213, 17-7-201, 18-1-102, 18-1-112,

24 18-1-201, 18-2-101, 18-2-103, 18-2-113, 18-2-114, 18-2-404,

25 18-2-432, 18-5-205, 19-1-102, 19-1-811, 22-1-309, 25-1-402,

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- 1 27-18-406, 33-20-1104, 39-3-104, 39-4-107, 39-31-103,
- 2 39-31-304, 39-71-116, 39-71-117, 39-71-2106, 39-71-2206,
- 3 40-6-237, 41-3-1132, 49-3-101, 49-3-102, 53-20-304,
- 4 77-3-321, 82-10-201, 82-10-202, 82-10-203, 85-7-2158, and
- 5 90-6-208 and Rules 4D(2)(g) and 15(c), M.R.Civ.P., as
- 6 amended.
- 7 (2) When the term "school district" appears in a
- 8 section outside of Title 20 but the section is not listed in
- 9 subsection (1), the school district provision does not apply
- 10 to a community college district."
- 11 Section 55. Section 25-13-404, MCA, is amended to
- 12 read:
- 13 "25-13-404. Return of the earn tion. (1) Except as
- 14 provided in subsection (2), execution may be made
- 15 returnable, at any time not less than 10 or more than 60
- 16 days after its receipt by the sheriff, to the clerk of the
- 17 court in which the judgment was rendered.
- 18 (2) The writ of execution issued by the county
- 19 treasurer under--15-16-401 may be made returnable, at any
- 20 time not less than 10 or more than 90 days after its receipt
- 21 by the sheriff, to the county treasurer of the county in
- 22 which the writ was issued."
- 23 Section 56. Section 61-3-532, MCA, is amended to read:
- 24 "61-3-532. Light vehicle license fee. (1) Except as
- 25 provided in subsection (2), light vehicles are subject to a

- l license fee. This fee is imposed in lieu of a property tax
 - and is in addition to the tax on new motor vehicles.
- 3 (2) (a) Light vehicles that meet the description of
- 4 property exempt from taxation under the--provisions--of
- 5 subsections--(a);--(c);--(d);--or--(e)--of 15-6-201(1) or
- 6 15-6-203(2) are exempt from the fee imposed in subsection
- 7 (1) of this section.
- 8 (b) A dealer for light vehicles is not required to pay
- 9 the license fee for light vehicles held for sale or used in
- 10 the dealer's business in selling or demonstrating the
- ll vehicles. Vehicles exempt under this subsection may not be
- 12 used for the personal use of the dealer, his family, or
 - employees or for any use not necessary in the pursuit of
- 14 business."

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- 15 Section 57. Section 61-3-701, MCA, is amended to read:
- 16 "61-3-701. Foreign vehicles used in gainful occupation
- 17 to be registered -- reciprocity. (1) Before any foreign
- 18 licensed motor vehicle may be operated on the highways of
- 19 this state for hire, compensation, or profit or before the
- 20 owner and/or user thereof uses the vehicle if such owner
 - and/or user is engaged in gainful occupation or business
- 22 enterprise in the state, including highway work, the owner
- 23 of the vehicle shall make application to a county treasurer
- 24 for registration upon an application form furnished by the
- 25 department. Upon satisfactory evidence of ownership

submitted to the county treasurer and the payment of 1 property taxes, if appropriate, as required by 15-8-201, 2 3 15-8-2027-or-15-24-301 or the payment of the light vehicle 4 license fee as provided by 61-3-532 or the fee in lieu of 5 tax as provided by 61-3-541, the treasurer shall accept the 6 application for registration and shall collect the regular 7 license fee required for the vehicle.

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- (2) The treasurer shall thereupon issue to the applicant a copy of the certificate entitled "Owner's Certificate of Registration and Payment Receipt" and forward a duplicate copy of the certificate to the department. The treasurer shall at the same time issue to the applicant the proper license plates or other identification markers, which shall at all times be displayed upon the vehicle when operated or driven upon roads and highways of this state during the period of the life of the license.
- (3) The registration receipt shall not constitute evidence of ownership but shall be used only for registration purposes. No Montana certificate of ownership shall be issued for this type of registration.
- (4) This section is not applicable to any vehicle covered by a valid and existing reciprocal agreement or declaration entered into under the provisions of the laws of Montana."
- 25 Section 58. Section 61-12-206, MCA, is amended to

- 2 "61-12-206. Offenses for which arrest authorized. (1) 3 Employees appointed under 61-12-201 may make arrests for 4 violations of the following statutory provisions only: 5
 - (a) part 1, chapter 10, of this title;
- 6 (b) part 3, chapter 4, of this title;
- 7 tel--sections-15-24-201-through-15-24-205;
- 8 (d)(c) sections 15-70-302 through 15-70-307;
- 9 tet(d) sections 15-70-311 through 15-70-314;
- 1.0 ff(e) section 61-3-502(1);
- fq+(f) sections 61-10-201 through 61-10-215; 11
- 12 th;(q) sections 61-10-222 through 61-10-224;
- $\{\pm\}$ (h) sections 61-10-231 through 61-10-233. 13
- 14 (2) These employees may not arrest for violations 15 other than specified in this section."
- 16 Section 59. Section 67-3-201, MCA, is amended to read:
- "67-3-201. Aircraft registration and licensing. (1) 17
- 18 Except as provided in 67-3-102 and in subsection (7) (6) of
- 19 this section, a person may not operate or cause or authorize
- 20 to be operated a civil aircraft within this state unless the
- 21 aircraft has an appropriate effective registration, license,
- 23 States government which has been registered with the
- department and the registration with the department is in 24
- 25 force.

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read:

certificate, or permit issued or approved by the United

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(2) Aircraft customarily kept in this state shall be registered with the department, which may charge a fee therefor of not more than \$10. The registration shall be renewed annually on or before March 1 each year.

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- (3) Section 67-3-202 and subsections (2) through (7)(6) of this section shall not apply to:
- (a) aircraft owned and operated by the federal government, the state, or any political subdivision thereof;
- (b) aircraft owned and held by an aircraft dealer solely for the purpose of resale;
- (c) aircraft operated by an airline company and regularly scheduled for the primary purpose of carrying persons or property for hire in int sate or international transportation; or
 - (d) dismantled or otherwise nonflyable aircraft.
- (4) An aircraft shall be registered as property within a particular county of the state. This county shall be the county of the owner's principal residence, if the owner is a natural person, or the owner's principal place of doing business in the state, if the owner is not a natural person. However, if the owner declares by affidavit that the aircraft is customarily kept at a landing facility in another county within the state, he may register the aircraft as property within such other county.
 - +5)--Except-as-provided-in-15-6-2107-all-aircraft-shall

- be-subject-to-all-statey-countyy--and--school--district--tax

 ievies--and--all--other--levies--designated-for-aircraft--or
 airport-related-uses--Such-aircraft-shall-not-be-liable--for
 other-city-tax-levies-
- 5 (6) (5) Aircraft not registered in the state but 6 entering the state to engage in commercial operations shall 7 be registered prior to commencing operation.
 - (7)(6) Owners of ultralight aircraft for which no appropriate effective license, certificate, or permit is issued by the United States government shall file with the department an appropriate registration recognized and approved by the United States government."
 - Section 60. Section 67-3-202, MCA, is amended to read: "67-3-202. Penalty for registration violations. (1) When an aircraft required to be registered under the provisions of subsections (2) through (7) (6) of 67-3-201 is not registered on or before March 1 of the current calendar year, a penalty fee of \$100 shall be added to the registration fee and collected. Registration of an aircraft in the name of the applicant for the year immediately preceding the year for which application for registration is made shall be prima facie evidence that the aircraft has been based in this state during the year for which application for registration is made.
- 25 (2) -- Except--for-aircraft-exempt-from-property-taxation

as-provided-in-15-6-2107--an--application--for--registration shall--be--accompanied--by--a--copy--of--the--receipt-for-or statement-of-personal--property--tax--paidy--signed--by--the treasurer-of-the-county-where-the-aircraft-is-registeredy-or a-statement-of-lien-assignment-against-real-propertyy-signed by--the--county-assessor-where-the-aircraft-is-registeredy-A person-who-pays-personal-property-tax-on-his-aircraft-to-any jurisdiction-other-than-the-county--where--the--aircraft--is required--to--be--registered--is--liable-for-the-tax-in-that county-without-credit-for-such-other-taxes-paidy-fin-addition to-this-civil-liabilityy-a-person-who-attempts-to--establish the-situs-of-his-aircraft-in-any-jurisdiction-other-than-the county--where-the-aircraft-is-required-to-be-registered-with intent-to-avoid-payment-of-taxes-to-that-county-commits---the offense-of-false-swearing-as-defined-in-45-7-2027

(3) A person who operates an aircraft required to be registered in the state without having displayed upon such aircraft a certificate of registration issued by the department for that aircraft commits a misdemeanor."

Section 61. Section 81-7-303, MCA, is amended to read:
"81-7-303. County commissioners permitted to require
per capita license fee on sheep. (1) To defray the expense
of such protection the board of county commissioners of any
county shall have the power to require all owners or persons
in possession of any sheep coming 1 year old or over in the

county on the-regular-assessment-date January 1 of each year to pay a license fee in an amount to be determined by the board on a per head basis for sheep so owned or possessed by him in the county. All owners or persons in possession of any sheep coming 1 year old or over coming into the county after the-regular-assessment-date-and-subject-to-taxation under-the-provisions-of-15-24-301 January 1 shall also be subject to payment of the license fee herein prescribed.

LC 0756/01

(2) Upon the order of the board of county commissioners such license fees may be imposed by the entry thereof in the name of the licensee upon the property tax rolls of the county by the county assessor. Said license fees shall be payable to and collected by the county treasurer, and when so levied, shall be a lien upon the property, -- both -- real-and-personal, of the licensee. In case the person against whom said license fee is levied owns no real estate against which said license fee is or may become a lien, then said license fee shall be payable immediately upon its levy and the treasurer shall collect the same in the manner provided by law for the collection--of--personal property--taxes--which--are--not--a--lien--upon--real-estate execution of a judgment.

(3) When collected, said fees shall be placed by the treasurer in the predatory animal control fund and the moneys in said fund shall be expended on order of the board

of county commissioners of the county for predatory animal control only."

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Section 62. Section 81-8-804, MCA, is amended to read:

"81-8-804. Assessments -- refunds. (1) There is
levied,--in--addition--to-the-tax-on-livestock-prescribed-in
Title-15,-chapter-24,-part-9, a per head tax of 25 cents on
each head of cattle that is more than 9 months of age and is
owned or possessed within a county for the support and
maintenance of research into beef production as provided in
this part. The tax shall be paid to the county treasurer of
that county on or before March 1 of each year.

- (2) The tax required in subsection (1) must be paid for each head of cattle that is more than 9 months of age and is brought into the county after March 1 and-is-subject to-taxation-and-assessment-under-15-24-301.
- (3) Each county is entitled to receive \$250 annually as reimbursement for the administration of this section.
- (4) A person who has paid the tax required by this section may obtain a refund of the tax upon submission of a written request to the department. The application must be made within 30 days after the payment of the tax and on forms furnished by the department. The department shall, upon receipt of a timely and otherwise properly submitted refund request, refund the tax."
- 25 NEW SECTION. Section 63. Repealer. Sections 15-6-136,

- 15-6-139, 15-6-142, 15-6-146, 15-6-202, 15-6-204, 15-6-207,
- 2 15-6-210, 15-8-202, 15-8-204, 15-8-205, 15-8-401, 15-8-404,
- 3 15-8-405, 15-8-408, 15-16-111 through 15-16-115, 15-16-401,
- 4 15-16-402, 15-16-404, 15-16-503, 15-16-701 through
- 5 15-16-703, 15-17-901 through 15-17-903, 15-23-401 through
- 6 15-23-403, 15-24-101 through 15-24-105, 15-24-201 through
- 7 15-24-208, 15-24-301 through 15-24-304, 15-24-901 through
- 8 15-24-906, 15-24-908 through 15-24-911, 15-24-921 through
- 9 15-24-926, 15-24-931, 15-24-941 through 15-24-943, and
- 10 61-3-707, MCA, are repealed.
- 11 NEW SECTION. Section 64. Codification instruction.
- 12 Sections 1 through 3 are intended to be codified as an
- integral part of Title 15, chapter 10, and the provisions of
- 14 Title 15, chapter 10, apply to sections 1 through 3.
- 15 NEW SECTION. Section 65. Extension of authority. Any
- 16 existing authority of the department of revenue to make
- 17 rules on the subject of the provisions of this act is
- 18 extended to the provisions of this act.
- 19 NEW SECTION. Section 66. Contingent effective
 - provision -- applicability. (1) This act is effective on
- 21 passage and approval of a general sales tax bill that
- 22 directs the revenue from the tax to education and other
- 23 local government purposes.

- 24 (2) This act applies retroactively, within the meaning
- of 1-2-109, to taxable years beginning after December 31,

1 1986.

-End-

-75-

STATE OF MONTANA - FISCAL NOTE

Form BD-15

In compliance with a written request, there is hereby submitted a Fiscal Note for SB386, as introduced.

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION:

An act to generally revise property taxation by repealing taxes on personal property; placing a cap on certain real property taxes equivalent to 1 percent of market value; making property tax revisions contingent on passage and approval of a general sales tax with revenue directed to educational and other local government purposes; and providing a contingent effective provision and a retroactive applicability date.

ASSUMPTIONS:

- 1. It is assumed for the purposes of this note that a general sales tax is passed with its revenue directed to education and local governments.
- 2. The taxable value of the state will be \$1,997,193,000 in FY88 and \$2,024,661,000 in FY89 (REAC).
- 3. The repeal of personal property taxes would reduce property tax revenue by approximately \$115 million per year in FY88 and FY89 (estimates based on 1986 tax year). The retroactive applicability date will exempt 29.6 percent of personal property from taxation in FY87, since these properties are assessed on January 1 and the taxes are paid in April.
- 4. The 1 percent cap of the effective property tax rate is estimated to reduce property tax revenue by \$98 million in FY88 and FY89, when the cap is applied to class four, five, eleven, fourteen, fifteen and seventeen properties (If the cap is limited to class four, five and fourteen, then the reduction of revenue would be approximately \$50 million).
- 5. It is assumed that the sales tax rate will be set to generate \$213 million per year (115 + 98), given the exemptions allowed. Further, it is assumed that the sales tax will be in place at the beginning of FY88 (see technical note).
- 6. The administrative cost saving from the repeal of personal property taxes will partially fund the administration of the sales tax as shown below.

	FY87	FY88	_ FY89
Sales Tax Administration	\$ 301,757	\$3,120,294	\$3,431,006
Personal Property Savings	0	894,545	1,867,970
Additional Appropriation	\$ 301,757	\$2,225,749	\$1,563,036

DAVID L. HUNTER, BUDGET DIRECTOR

Office of Budget and Program Planning

THOMAS KEATING PRIMARY SPONSOR

Fiscal Note for SB386, as introduced.

5B 386

Fiscal Note Request, <u>SB386</u>, as introduced. Form BD-15
Page 2

FISCAL IMPACT:

Revenue Impact:

Any impact to the university and school foundation levies due to the proposal would depend on legislative decisions about the sales tax rate, exemptions and allocation of revenue. This note assumes sales tax revenue would be sufficient to replace the property tax revenue to the university and school foundation levies.

There would be a loss in FY87 due to the retroactive applicability date of the proposal. Revenue from the university levy would decline by \$850,000 (6/240 X 34 million) and foundation program revenue would fall by \$6,375,000 (45/240 X 34 million). Sales tax revenue will not replace this revenue due to the delay in the implementation of the tax.

Expenditure Impact:

Additional general fund expenditures of approximately \$2.2 million and \$1.6 million would be incurred to administer a sales tax in FY88 and FY89, respectively. These costs are net of the savings from the repeal of personal property taxes.

Start-up costs of a sales tax are estimated to be approximately \$300,000 (HB 377 fiscal note). These costs would be incurred in FY87 under the proposal. Administrative cost savings from the repeal of personal property taxes would not cover these costs since the property would already be assessed by the time this bill becomes law and due to the time necessary to terminate employees. Hence, an additional general fund appropriation of approximately \$300,000 would be required.

EFFECT ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT REVENUES:

Any impact on local government revenues due to the proposal would depend on Legislative decisions about the sales tax rate, exemptions and allocation of revenue. This note assumes sales tax revenue would be sufficient to replace property tax revenue when the tax is fully implemented.

Further, the note assumes that an allocation formula for the sales tax revenue can be devised to match the flow of sales tax revenue to taxing jurisdictions with the loss in revenue from the repeal of personal property taxes and the effective rate cap. The proposal may create losses to some taxing jurisdictions depending on the allocation of the sale tax revenue.

There would be a loss in FY87 due to the retroactive applicability date of the personal property repeal. Local government revenues would decline by \$26,775,000 (189/240 X 34 million). Sales tax revenue will not be available to replace these revenues due to the delay in the implementation of the tax.

Fiscal Note Request, <u>SB380</u>, as introduced. Form BD-15
Page 3

TECHNICAL OR MECHANICAL DEFECTS OR CONFLICTS WITH EXISTING LEGISLATION:

The proposal would require the Department of Revenue to implement a major new tax in less than three months. This task would include rulemaking, form design, developing a computer system, identifying and notifying taxpayers, and hiring and training additional staff. An orderly development process requires at least one year from the enactment date to the effective date.

Given the time it will take to implement the tax, a change in the applicability date of the proposal would be required to avoid a major reduction in revenue to the university system, to the school foundation program and to local governments.

The proposal does not change the bonded indebtedness limits of the taxing jurisdictions. These limits need to be altered to reflect the significant loss in taxable value due to the repeal of personal property taxes.

Likewise, the bill does not address county classifications, elected officials' salaries, certified mills, and mill levy limits. Each of these need to be adjusted to reflect the lower taxable values of the counties and other taxing jurisdictions.