## SENATE BILL 423

Introduced by Brown, Robert, et al.

2/14 Introduced
2/14 Referred to Taxation
2/15 Fiscal Note Requested
2/21 Fiscal Note Received
2/21 Fiscal Note Printed
3/07
3/13
Hearing
/27
Committee Report--Bill Passed as Amended
3/27 Referred to Taxation Died in Committee

INTRODUCED BY


BY REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT TO REQUIRE QUARTERLY ESTIMATED PAYMENTS BY ALL TAXPAYERS SUBJECT TO CORPORATE LICENSE OR INCOME tAX WHO have annual State tax liabilities IN EXCESS OF $\$ 5,000$; TO PROVIDE FOR PENALTIES FOR UNDERPAYMENT; AMENDING SECTIONS 15-31-101 AND 15-31-502, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN APPLICABILITY DATE."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:
Section 1. Section 15-31-101, MCA, is amended to read:
-15-31-101. Organizations subject to tax. (1) The term "corporation" includes associations, joint-stock companies, common-law trusts and business trusts which do business in an organized capacity, and all other corporations whether created, organized, or existing under and pursuant to the laws, agreements, or declarations of trust of any state, country, or the United States.
(2) The terms "engaged in business" and "doing business" both mean actively engaging in any transaction for the purpose of financial or pecuniary gain or profit.
(3) Except as provided in 15-31-103 or 33-2-705(4) or as may be otherwise specifically provided, every corporation
engaged in business in the state of Montana shall annually pay to the state treasurer as a license fee for the privilege of carrying on business in this state such percentage or percentages of its total net income for the preceding taxable year at the rate hereinafter set forth. In the case of corporations having income from business activity which is taxable both within and without this state, the license fee shall be measured by the net income derived from or attributable to Montana sources as determined under part 3. This Except as provided in 15-31-502, this tax is due and payable on the 15 th day of the 5th month following the close of the taxable year of the corporation; however, the tax becomes a lien as provided in this chapter on the last day of the taxable year in which the income was earned and is for the privilege of carrying on business in this state for the taxable year in which the income was earned.
(4) Every bank organized under the laws of the state of Montana, of any other state, or of the United States and every savings and loan association organized under the laws of this state or of the United States is subject to the Montana corporation license tax provided for under this chapter. For taxable years beginning on and after January 1, 1972, this subsection is effective in accordance with Public Law 91-l56, section 2 (12 U.S.C. 548)."

Section 2. Section 15-31-502, MCA, is amended to read:
"15-31-502. Assessment and payment of taxp-penatty;-and interest -- estimated tax payment. (l) All taxpayers shall compute the amount of tax payable under this chapter and shall remit sueh the amount to the department of revenue on or before the 15 th day of the 5 th month following the close of the taxable period. ff-the-tax-is-not-paid-on-or-before the-due-dater-there-shałz-be-assessed-a-penatty--of--i日\%--of the--anount--of--the-tax-unzess-it-is-shown-that-the-faiture was-due-to-reasonabłe-cause-and-not-due-to-negteet---¥f--any tax--due--under-this-chapter-is-not-paid-when-duef-by-reason of-extension-granted-or-othervisef-interest-shati--be--added thereto-at-the-rate-of-まzs-per-annum-from-the-due-date-antit paid:
(2) Each corporation shall make estimated tax payments if its estimated tax can reasonably be expected to be $\$ 5,000$ or more. The estimated payments must be made in installments as follows:
(a) If the $\$ 5,000$ The following percentages of threshold is met or the estimated tax must be exceeded:
paid on the 15th day of the applicable months:

| 4th | 6th | 9th | 12th |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| month | month | month | month |

Before the lst day of the

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4th month of the taxable
year: 25% 25% 25% 25%
After the last day of the
3rd month and before the
lst day of the 6th month of
the taxable year:
After the last day of the
5th month and before the
1st day of the 9th month of
the taxable year: 50%
After the last day of the
8th month and before the
12th month of the taxable
year:
100%
(b) If after paying any installment of estimated tax
the taxpayer makes a new estimate, the amount of each
installment, if any, is the amount that would have been paid
if the new estimate had been made when the first estimate
for the taxable year was made, increased or decreased, as
the case may be, by the amount computed by dividing:
    (i) the difference between:
    (A) the amount of estimated tax required to be paid
before the date oll which the new estimate was made; and
    (B) the amount of estimated tax that would have been
required to be puid before that date if the new estimate had
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## been made when the first estimate was made;

(ii) by the number of installments remaining to be paid on or after the date on which the new estimate was made.
(c) The application of this section to taxable years of less than 12 months must be in accordance with regulations prescribed by the department.
(d) At the election of the corporation, any installment of the estimated tax may be paid before the date prescribed for its payment."

NEW SECTION. Section 3. Estimated payments -- tax returns -- penalties -- interest. (1) For corporations failing to make estimated payments according to the schedule provided in 15-31-502(2), there is assessed a 20 \% underpayment penalty calculated as follows:
(a) For purposes of this subsection, the amount of underpayment is in excess of the amount of the installment that would be required to be paid if the estimated tax were equal to $80 \%$ of the tax shown on the return for the taxable year or, if no return was filed, 80\% of the tax for the year over the amount, if any, of the installment paid on or before the last date prescribed for payment.
(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (1)(a), the penalty with respect to an underpayment of any installment may not be imposed if the total amount of all payments of estimated tax made on or before the last date
prescribed for the payment of the installment equals or exceeds the amount that would have been required to be paid on or before that date if the estimated tax were the lesser of the following:
(i) the tax shown on the return of the corporation for the preceding taxable year if a return showing a liability for tax was filed for the preceding taxable year and the preceding year was a taxable year of 12 months;
(ii) an amount equal to the tax computed at the rates applicable to the taxable year, but otherwise on the basis of the facts shown on the return of the corporation for, and the law applicable to, the preceding taxable year; or
(iii) an amount equal to $80 \%$ of the tax for the taxable year, computed by placing on an annualized basis the taxable income:
(A) for the first 3 months of the taxable year in the case of the instaliment required to be paid in the 4 th month;
(B) for the first 3 months or for the first 5 months of the taxable year in the case of the installment required to be paid in the 6 th month;
(C) for the first 6 months ur for the first 8 months of the taxable year in the case of ine installment required to be paid in the $9 t h$ month; and
(D) for the first 9 months "l for the first 11 months
of the taxable year in the case of the installment required to be paid in the 12 th month of the taxable year.
(c) For purposes of subsection (l)(b)(iii), the taxable income must be placed on an annualized basis by:
(i) multiplying by 12 the taxable income referred to in subsection (l)(b)(iii); and
(ii) dividing the resulting amount by the number of months in the taxable year $(3,5,6,8,9$, or 11 , as the case may be) referred to in subsection (l)(b)(iii).
(d) Notwithstanding subsections (1)(a) through (1)(c), the penalty with respect to an underpayment of any installment may not be imposed if the total amount of all payments of estimated tax made on or before the last date prescribed for the payment of the installment equals or exceeds $80 \%$ of the amount determined under subsection (1)(e).
(e) To determine the amount under this subsection for any installment:
(i) take the taxable income for all months during the taxable year preceding the filing month;
(ii) divide the amount by the base period percentage for all months during the taxable year preceding the filing month;
(iii) determine the tax on the amount calculated under subsection (1)(e)(ii); and
(iv) multiply the tax computed under subsection (l)(e)(iii) by the base period percentage for the filing month and all months during the taxable year preceding the filing month.
(f) For purposes of this subsection (1):
(i) the base period percentage for any period of months is the average percentage that the taxable income for the corresponding months in each of the 3 preceding taxable years bears to the taxable income of the 3 preceding years;
(ii) the term "filing month" means the month in which the instalment is required to be paid;
(iii) this subsection (1) applies only if the base period percentage for any 6 consecutive months of the taxable year equals or exceeds 70\%; and
(iv) the department may by rule provide for the determination of the base period percentage in the case of reorganizations, new corporations, and other similar circumstances.
(2) If the tax for any corporation is not paid on or before the due date of the return as provided in 15-31-111(2), there is assessed a penalty of $10 \%$ of the amount of the tax due, unless it is shown that the failure was due to reasonable cause and not to neglect.
(3) If any tax due under this chapter is not paid when due, by reason of extension granted or otherwise, interest

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is added to the tax due at the rate of $12 \%$ a year from the due date until paid.

NEW SECTION. Section 4. Extension of authority. Any existing authority to make rules on the subject of the provisions of [this act] is extended to the provisions of [this act].

NEW SECTION. Section 5. Saving clause. [This act] does not affect $r i g h t s$ and duties that matured, penalties that were incurred, or proceedings that were begun before [the effective date of this actl.

NEW SECTION. Section 6. Codification instruction. [Section 3] is intended to be codified as an integral part of Title 15, chapter 31, part 5, and the provisions of Title 15, chapter 31, part 5, apply to [section 3].

NEW SECTION. Section 7. Applicability. [This act] applies to taxable years beginning after December 31, 1989. -End-

## APPROVED BY COMMITTEE ON TAXATION

SENATE BILL NO. 423
INTRODUCED BY B. BROWN, GILBERT
BY REQUEST OF THE GOVERNOR

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT TO REQUIRE QUARTERLY ESTIMATED PAYMENTS BY ALL TAXPAYERS SUBJECT TO CORPORATE LICENSE OR INCOME TAX WHO have anNuAl State tax liabilities IN EXCESS OF $\$ 5,000$; TO PROVIDE FOR PENALTIES FOR UNDERPAYMENT; AMENDING SECTIONS 15-31-101 AND 15-31-502, MCA; AND PROVIDING AN APPLICABILITY DATE."

## STATEMENT OF INTENT

A statement of intent is not technically required for this bill because rulemaking authority to enforce the provisions of this bill is expanded in 15-31-501. However, in adopting this bill, the legislature intends that any rules promulgated by the department of revenue should conform as closely as possible with similar rules used by the internal revenue service for its enforcement of the quarterly payment of estimated taxes by corporations. Accordingly, the rules should, at a minimum, provide for the following:
(1) the determination of which corporations are required to pay estimated income taxes;
(2) installment schedules for the payment of estimated
taxes;
(3) the requirements for the payment of estimated taxes for short-period returns;
(4) procedures for the payment of estimated taxes in advance;
(5) procedures for the recomputation of estimated taxes;
(6) the payment of penalties and interest for failure to pay the estimated taxes when due;
(7) information that is required on the estimated tax return and on other forms that may be required by the department;
(8) the definition of terms and establishment of procedures as appropriate for the efficient administration of [this act].

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:
Section 1. Section 15-31-101, MCA, is amended to read:
"15-31-101. Organizations subject to tax. (1) The term "corporation" includes associations, joint-stock companies, common-law trusts and business trusts which do business in an organized capacity, and all other corporations whether created, organized, or existing under and pursuant to the laws, agreements, or declarations of trust of any state, country, or the United States.
(2) The terms "engaged in business" and "doing business" both mean actively engaging in any transaction for the purpose of financial or pecuniary gain or profit.
(3) Except as provided in 15-31-103 or 33-2-705(4) or as may be otherwise specifically provided, every corporation engaged in business in the state of Montana shall annually pay to the state treasurer as a license fee for the privilege of carrying on business in this state such percentage or percentages of its total net income for the preceding taxable year at the rate hereinafter set forth. In the case of corporations having income from business activity which is taxable both within and without this state, the license fee shall be measured by the net income derived from or attributable to montana sources as determined under part 3. This Except as provided in 15-31-502, this tax is due and payable on the 15 th day of the 5 th month following the close of the taxable year of the corporation; however, the tax becomes a lien as provided in this chapter on the last day of the taxable year in which the income was earned and is for the privilege of carrying on business in this state for the taxable year in which the income was earned.
(4) Every bank organized under the laws of the state of Montana, of any other state, or of the United States and every savings and loan association organized under the laws
of this state or of the United States is subject to the Montana corporation license tax provided for under this chapter. For taxable years beginning on and after January 1 , 1972, this subsection is effective in accordance with Public Law 91-156, section 2 (12 U.S.C. 548)."

Section 2. Section 15-31-502, MCA, is amended to read:
"15-31-502. Assessment and payment of tax;--penazty and--interest - - estimated tax payment. (1) All taxpayers shall compute the amount of tax payable under this chapter and shall remit sueh the amount to the department of rovenue on or before the i5th day of the 5 th month following the close of the taxable period. ff-the-tax-is-not-paid--en--or before--the--due--dater-there-ghati-be-agsessed-a-penatty-of $\pm \theta \frac{2}{8}-$ of-the-amount-of-the-tax-unzess-it--is--ghown--that--the faiture--was-due-te-rcasonable-cause-and-not-due-te-negłeet. ff-any-tax-due-under-this-chapter-is-nat-paid-when--dae;--by reason--of-extension-granted-or-otherwiser-interest-shatz-be added-thereto-at-the-rate-of-まzz-per anmam-from-the-dte-date untiz-paid.
(2) Each corporation shall make estimated tax payments if its estimated tax can reasonably be expected to be $\$ 5,000$ or more. The estimated payments must be made in installments as follows:
(a) If the $\$ 5,000$ The following percentages of threshold is met or the estimated tax must be

paid on the 15 th day of the applicable months:
$331 / 38 \quad 331 / 38 \quad 331 / 3 \%$

50\% $50 \%$
(i) the difference between:
(A) the amount of estimated tax required to be paid before the date on which the new estimate was made; and
(B) the amount of estimated tax that would have been required to be paid before that date if the new estimate had been made when the first estimate was made;
(ii) by the number of installments remaining to be paid on or after the date on which the new estimate was made.
(c) The application of this section to taxable years of less than 12 months must be in accordance with regulations prescribed by the department.
(d) At the election of the corporation, any installment of the estimated tax may be paid before the date prescribed for its payment."

NEW SECTION. Section 3. Estimated payments -- tax returns -- penalties -- interest. (1) For corporations failing to make estimated payments according to the schedule provided in 15-31-502(2), there is assessed a 20 (PER ANNUM underpayment penalty calculated as follows:
(a) For purposes of this subsection, the amount of underpayment is in excess of the amount of the installment that would be required to be paid if the estimated tax were equal to $80 \%$ of the tax shown on the return for the taxable year or, if no return was filed, $80 \%$ of the tax for the year over the amount, if any, of the installment paid on or

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before the last date prescribed for payment
(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (l)(a), the penalty with respect to an underpayment of any installment may not be imposed if the total amount of all payments of estimated tax made on or before the last date prescribed for the payment of the instailment equals or exceeds the amount that would have been required to be paid on or before that date if the estimated tax were the lesser of the following:
(i) the tax shown on the return of the corporation for the preceding taxable year if a return showing a liability Eor tax was filed for the preceding taxable year and the preceding year was a taxable year of 12 months;
(ii) an amount equal to the tax computed at the rates applicable to the taxable year, but otherwise on the basis of the facts shown on the return of the corporation for, and the law applicable to, the preceding taxable year; or
(iii) an amount equal to $80 \%$ of the tax for the taxable year, computed by placing on an annualized basis the taxable income:
(A) for the first 3 months of the taxable year in the case of the installment required to be paid in the 4 th month;
(B) for the first 3 months or for the first 5 months of the taxable year in the case of the installment required
to be paid in the 6th month;
(C) for the first 6 months or for the first 8 months of the taxable year in the case of the installment required to be paid in the 9 th month; and
(D) for the first 9 months or for the first 11 months of the taxable year in the case of the installment required to be paid in the 12 th month of the taxabie year.
(c) For purposes of subsection (1)(b)(iii): the taxable income must be placed on an annalized basis by:
(i) muytiplying by 12 the taxabie income referred to in subsection (i)(b)(iii); and
(ii) dividing the resulting amount by the number of months in the taxable year $(3,5,6,8,9$, or 11 , as the case may be) refersed to in subsection (1)(b)(iii).
(d) Notwithstanding suosections (l)(a) through (l)(c), the penalty with respect to an underpayment of any installment may not be imposed if the totai amount of all payments of estimated tax made on or before the last date prescribed for the payment of the installment equals or exceeds $80 \%$ of the amount determined under subsection (l)(e).
(e) To determine the amount under this subsection for any installment:
(i) take the taxable income for all months during the taxable year preceding the filing month:
(ii) divide the amount by the base period percentage for all months during the taxable year preceding the filing month;
(iii) determine the tax on the amount calculated under subsection (1)(e)(ii): and
(iv) multiply the tax computed under subsection (1)(e)(iii) by the base period percentage for the filing month and all months during the taxable year preceding the filing month.
(f) For purposes of this subsection (1):
(i) the base period percentage for any period of months is the average percentage that the taxable income for the corresponding months in each of the 3 preceding taxable years bears to the taxable income of the 3 preceding years;
(ii) the term "filing month" means the month in which the installment is required to be paid;
(iii) this subsection (l) applies only if the base period percentage for any 6 consecutive months of the taxable year equals or exceeds 70\%; and
(iv) the department may by rule provide for the determination of the base period percentage in the case of reorganizations, new corporations, and other similar circumstances.
(2) If the tax for any corporation is not paid on or before the due date of the return as provided in

15-31-1ll(2), there is assessed a penalty of $10 \%$ of the amount of the tax due, unless it is shown that the failure was due to reasonable cause and not to neglect.
(3) If any tax due under this chapter is not paid when due, by reason of extension granted or otherwise, interest is added to the tax due at the rate of $12 \%$ a year from the due date until paid.

NEW SECTION. Section 4. Extension of authority. Any existing authority to make rules on the subject of the provisions of [this act] is extended to the provisions of [this act].

NEW SECTION. Section 5. Saving clause. [This act] does not affect rights and duties that matured, penalties that were incurred, or proceedings that were begun before [the effective date of this act].

NEW SECTION. Section 6. Codification instruction. [Section 3] is intended to be codified as an integral part of Title 15 , chapter 31 , part 5 , and the provisions of Title 15, chapter 31, part 5, apply to [section 3 ].

NEW SECTION. Section 7. Applicability. [This act] applies to taxable years beginning after December 31, 1989.
-End-

## STATE OF MONTANA - FISCAL NOTE

Form BD-15
In compliance with a written request, there is hereby submitted a Fiscal Note for SB423, as introduced

## DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED LEGISLATTON:

An act to require quarterly estimated payments by all taxpayers subject to corporate license or income tax who have annual state tax liabilities in excess of $\$ 5,000$; to provide for penalties for underpayment; and providing an applicability date.

ASSUMPTIONS:

1. Corporation license tax collections are projected to be $\$ 49,207,000$ in FY90 and $\$ 49,503,000$ in FY91 (REAC).
2. The percentage distribution of corporate tax liabilities across taxable income brackets in l987 is assumed constant in future years.
3. Corporations will submit through required estimated payments $80 \%$ of their total tax liability.
4. The requirement to submit estimated paymerts will apply to approximately 1,000 corporations. These l,000 corporations account for $77.4 \%$ of revenue coilected from the corporation license or income tax.
5. Short-term interest rates are estimated to be $7.1 \%$ for $F Y 90$ and $6.8 \%$ in FY91. (REAC)
6. The submission of quarterly estimated tax payments will increase the workload of the Natural fesource and Corporation Tax Division. An additional 1,000 forms and payments will be received quarterly by the division. This additional workload requires the addition of 1.00 Frle, a grade 11 audit technician, plus annual printing and postage costs. It also will require a one-time expenditure for furniture tor this position, and a one-time expenditure for the changing of the corporation tax computer system and the revenue control system to account for the changed method of tax receipts.
7. Additional interest earned due to the change in the timeing of the receipts is estimated to be $\$ 0 \%$, 000 in $F Y 0$ and $\$ 686,000$ in FY91.

## FISCAL IMPACT:

| Revenue Impact: |  | FY '90 |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Current Law | Proposed Law | Difference |
| Corporation Tax | \$49,207,000 | \$ 57,139,168 | \$7,932,168 |
| Interest on |  |  |  |
| Investments | 14,920,000 | 14,987,000 | 67,000 |
| TOTAL | \$64,127,000 | \$ 72,126,168 | \$7,909,168 |


|  | FY '91 |  |
| :---: | :---: | ---: |
| $\frac{\text { Current Law }}{\$ 49,503,000}$ | $\frac{\text { Proposed Law }}{\$ 63,36,790}$ | $\frac{\text { Difforence }}{\$ 13,865,790}$ |
| $\frac{14,282,000}{\$ 63,785,000}$ | $\frac{14,968,000}{\$ 78,336,790}$ | $\frac{586,000}{\$ 14,551,790}$ |

Office of Budget and Program Planning


Fiscal Note for SB423, as introduced
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Fiscal Note Request SB423, as introduced
Form BD-15
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Fund Information:

|  | FY 90 |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Current Law | Proposed Law | Difference |
| General Fund | \$43,774,764 | \$ 48,491,560 | \$4,716,796 |
| Foundation Program | 11,271,392 | 13,087,727 | 1,816,335 |
| Sinking Fund | 4,959,413 | 5,758,600 | 799,187 |
| Local Government | 4,121,431 | 4,788,282 | 666,850 |
| Total | \$64,127,000 | \$72,126,168 | \$7,999,168 |


| FY ©91 |  |  |
| ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Current Law | Proposed Law | Difference |
| $\$ 43,291,993$ | $\$ 52,125,430$ | $\$ 8,833,437$ |
| $11,332,029$ | $14,514,621$ | $3,182,592$ |
| $4,986,093$ | $6,386,433$ | $1,400,340$ |
| $4,174,885$ | $5,310,306$ | $1,135,421$ |
| $\$ 53,785,000$ | $\$ 78,336,790$ | $\$ 14,551,790$ |

Expenditure Impact:

| (General Fund) | FY '90 |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | Current Law | Proposed Law | Difference |
| Fersonal Services | 0 | \$17,057 | \$17,057 |
| Operating Expense | 0 | 5,000 | 5,000 |
| Capital Outlay | 0 | 2,500 | 2,500 |
| Total | 0 | \$24,557 | \$24,557 |


| FY 91 |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Current Law | Proposed Law | Difference |  |
| 0 | $\$ 17,313$ | $\$ 17,313$ |  |
| 0 | 1,000 | 1,000 |  |
| 0 | 0 | 0 |  |
| 0 | $\$ 18,313$ | $\$ 18,313$ |  |

Long-Range Effect:
There is no impact on revenue beyond FY91; the above impacts reflect a one-time acceleration of collections that will occur in the 1991 biennium only.

