

MINUTES
MONTANA SENATE
68th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION
COMMITTEE ON (S) TAXATION

Call to Order: Chair Sen. Greg Hertz-R, on February 15, 2023 at 9:05 AM, in 405

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Sen. Greg Hertz, Chair (R)
Sen. Shannon O'Brien, Vice Chair (D)
Sen. Daniel Zolnikov, Vice Chair (R)
Sen. Becky Beard (R)
Sen. Mary Ann Dunwell (D)
Sen. Brad Molnar (R)
Sen. Russel (Russ) Tempel (R)
Sen. Jeremy Trebas (R)

Members Excused: Sen. Jason Ellsworth (R)
Sen. Denise Hayman (D)
Sen. Edith (Edie) McClafferty (D)
Sen. Wendy McKamey (R)

Staff Present: Jaret Coles, Research Analyst
Lorna Mason, Secretary

Audio Committees: These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

Committee Business Summary:

Hearing & Date Posted:

SB 251 02/09/2023
SB 291 02/09/2023
SB 292 02/09/2023

Executive Action:

HB 212
HB 221

HEARING ON SB 251 - Sunset or reapprove existing voter-approved property tax levies

Opening Statement:

09:05:53 Sen. Greg Hertz (R), SD 12, opened the hearing on SB 251, Sunset or reapprove existing voter-approved property tax levies.

Proponent Testimony:

09:13:17 Bob Olsen, Montana Hospital Association (MHA)

09:13:54 Allen Rohrbach, Madison Valley Medical Center

Opponent Testimony:

09:15:48 SK Rossi, City of Bozeman

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09:19:12 Darryl James, Montana Infrastructure Coalition (MIC)

09:21:37 Kelly Lynch, Montana League of Cities and Towns (MTLCT)

09:23:43 Jason Rittal, Montana Association of Counties (MACO)

09:24:54 Eric Burke, Montana Association of Employees (MFPE)

09:27:18 Jasmin Krotkov, Montana Farmer's Union (MFU)

09:28:28 Rebecca Meyers, Montana Area Agency on Aging Association (AAA)

09:30:28 Jennifer Hensley, County of Missoula

09:33:16 Bob Gilbert, City of Colstrip, City of Glendive

09:36:08 Regina Plettenberg, Montana Association of Clerks and Recorders (MACR)

09:37:08 Carter Marm, Montana Fireman's Association (MSFA)

09:38:38 Adam Haight, Local Laborers 1686

09:39:00 Amanda Frickle, American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO)

09:40:52 Steve Turkiewicz, City of Billings

09:41:24 Al Ekblad, Operating Engineers 400

09:42:15 Lance Melton, Montana School Boards Association (MTSBA)

09:44:01 Russ Nelson, City of Belgrade

09:46:00 John Finn, Lewis and Clark Library

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

09:48:06 Sen. Mary Ann Dunwell

09:48:37 Sen. Greg Hertz-R

09:48:55 Sen. Mary Ann Dunwell

09:49:11 Bob Olsen, MHA

09:49:54 Sen. Mary Ann Dunwell

09:52:07 Regina Plettenburg, MCAA

09:52:16 Sen. Jeremy Trebas

09:52:53 Kelly Lynch

09:53:15 Sen. Becky Beard

09:53:42 Plettenburg, MCAA

09:55:20 Sen. Shannon O'Brien

09:59:30 Sen. Daniel Zolnikov

09:59:45 John Finn, Lewis and Clark Library

Closing Statement:

10:00:46 Sen. Greg Hertz (R), SD 12, closed the hearing on SB 251.

HEARING ON SB 291 - Revise threshold for approval for certain bond elections

Opening Statement:

10:06:03 Sen. Greg Hertz (R), SD 12, opened the hearing on SB 291, Revise threshold for approval for certain bond elections.

Proponent Testimony:

10:10:44 Jason Rittal, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)

Opponent Testimony:

10:11:51 Lance Milton, Montana School Board's Association (MTSBA)

10:12:17 Kelly Lynch, Montana League of Cities and Towns (MTLCT)

10:13:49 Darryl James, Montana Infrastructure Coalition (MIC)

10:17:35 Erik Burke, Montana Federation of Public Employees (MFPE)

10:18:33 SK Rossi, City of Missoula, City of Bozeman

10:20:52 Bob Gilbert, City of Glendive, City of Colstrip

10:23:11 Al Ekblad, Operating Engineers Local 400

10:24:52 Adam Haight, Laborers 1686

10:25:11 Rebecca Meyers, Montana Hospital Association (MHA)

10:25:42 Amanda Frickle, American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO)

10:25:59 Steve Turkiewicz, City of Billings

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

None

Closing Statement:

10:26:21 Sen. Greg Hertz (R), SD 12, closed the hearing on SB 291.

HEARING ON SB 292 - Revising the threshold for approval of a mill levy election

Opening Statement:

10:29:03 Sen. Greg Hertz (R), SD 12, opened the hearing on SB 292, Revising the threshold for approval of a mill levy election.

Proponent Testimony:

10:29:40 Jason Rittal, Montana Association of Counties (MACo)

Opponent Testimony:

10:30:28 Lance Melton, Montana School Board's Association (MTSBA)

10:34:31 Kelly Lynch, Montana League of Cities and Towns (MTLCT)

10:34:49 SK Rossi, City of Bozeman, City of Missoula

10:35:04 Jasmine Krotkove, Montana Farmer's Union (MFU)

10:35:26 Robin Turner, City of Whitefish

10:35:46 Darryl James, Montana Infrastructure Coalition (MIC)

10:36:53 Rebecca Meyers, Montana Hospital Association (MHA)

10:37:24 Erik Burke, Montana Federation of Public Employees (MFPE)

10:37:36 Steve Turkiewicz, City of Billings

10:38:00 Bob Gilbert, City of Colstrip, City of Glendive

10:38:44 Rich Cowger, Montana Fire Alliance (MFA)

10:39:19 Adam Haight, Laborers 1686

10:39:35 Al Ekblad, Operators 400

10:39:49 Amanda Frickle, American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO)

10:40:06 Jill Baker, Great Falls Public Library

10:43:21 Shelly Turner, Montana Association of School Board Organization (MASBO)

10:45:59 John Finn, Lewis and Clark Public Library

Informational Witness Testimony:

None

Questions from Committee:

10:46:59 Sen. Brad Molnar

10:47:21 Darryl James, MIC

Closing Statement:

10:53:37 Sen. Greg Hertz (R), SD 12, closed the hearing on SB 292.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 212 - Increase business equipment tax exemption

11:22:34 **Motion:** Sen. Daniel Zolnikov moved that **HB 212 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

10:55:16 Recessed

11:05:14 Reconvened

11:06:00

11:23:30 Sen. Shannon O'Brien

11:24:25 Sen. Jeremy Trebas

11:25:02 Sen. Brad Molnar

11:25:20 Jaret Coles

11:26:53 Sen. Greg Hertz

11:27:05 Jaret Coles

11:27:18 Sen. Russel (Russ) Tempel

11:27:49 Sen. Daniel Zolnikov

11:22:34 **Vote:** Motion carried 7 - 5 by roll call vote with Sen. Dunwell, Sen. Hayman, Sen. McClafferty, Sen. Molnar, Sen. O'Brien, voting no. Sen. Hayman, Sen. McClafferty, By Proxy

11:22:34 **Carrier Assigned:** Sen. Greg Hertz

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 221 - Revise income tax rates for net-long term capital gains

11:29:13 **Motion:** Sen. Daniel Zolnikov moved that **HB 221 BE CONCURRED IN.**

Discussion:

11:30:41 Sen. Shannon O'Brien

11:31:48 Sen. Mary Ann Dunwell

11:33:12 Sen. Jeremy Trebas

11:34:12 Sen. Shannon O'Brien

11:35:21 Sen. Greg Hertz

11:37:25 Sen. Jeremy Trebas

11:37:54 Sen. Shannon O'Brien

11:29:13 **Vote:** Motion carried 8 - 4 by roll call vote with Sen. Dunwell, Sen. Hayman, Sen. McClafferty, Sen. O'Brien, voting no.
Sen. Hayman, Sen. McClafferty, By Proxy

11:29:13 **Carrier Assigned:** Sen. Greg Hertz

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 11:42:08

Lorna Mason, Secretary

Additional Documents: [EXHIBIT\(230215TASaad\)](#)