MPMCSA

MONTANA PETROLEUM MARKETERS
& CONVENIENCE STORE ASSOCIATION

EXHIBIT 14
DATE 3·27·07
SB 284

March 26, 2007

To: House Taxation Committee

RE: SENATE BILL 284

The MPMCSA would like to go on record in support of SB284 that would reallocate portions of the accommodations and car rental taxes to the tourism industry. We believe that tourism infrastructure, maintenance, and preservation is very important to our Association members in the distribution and retailing of fuel products.

The added purchases from non-resident visitors to our state, whether it is during summer vacation season, hunting season or ski and snowmobile season are vital to keeping our businesses profitable. Like so many other small businesses, C-store operators know that tourism is a competitive business and Montana can't afford to be out-promoted by our surrounding states. Losing market share of tourism dollars is not only harmful to our businesses, but to employees as well.

When an investment in tourism promotion can be positive to the general fund and also support Montana's cultural, historical and recreational assets, it only makes sense for the future to support Senate Bill 284. We urge the Committee's support.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide our comments;

Ronna Alexander, E.D.

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