

MINUTES

**MONTANA SENATE
60th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE ON TAXATION

Call to Order: By **CHAIRMAN JIM ELLIOTT**, on February 7, 2007 at 9:00 A.M., in Room 405 Capitol.

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Jim Elliott, Chairman (D)
Sen. Jerry W. Black (R)
Sen. Jeff Essmann (R)
Sen. Kelly Gebhardt (R)
Sen. Kim Gillan (D)
Sen. Dan Harrington (D)
Sen. Christine Kaufmann (D)
Sen. Sam Kitzenberg (D)
Sen. Jim Peterson (R)
Sen. Trudi Schmidt (D)
Sen. Bob Story Jr. (R)

Members Excused: None.

Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Lee Heiman, Legislative Branch
Lois O'Connor, Committee 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 378, 2/2/2007; SB 400, 2/2/2007;
SB 375 , 2/2/2007
Executive Action: None.

00:01:02

HEARING ON SB 378

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

00:01:49 **SEN. KIM GILLAN (D), SD 24**, opened the hearing on **SB 378**, Standardize income tax definitions and interpretation with federal law.

Proponents' Testimony:

00:04:27 George Olsen, Montana Society of Certified Public Accountants (MSCPAs)

00:06:46 Holly Franz, MSCPAs

EXHIBIT (tas27a01)

EXHIBIT (tas27a02)

EXHIBIT (tas27a03)

00:09:38 John Alke, Montana-Dakota Utilities (MDU)

00:11:39 Mary Wittinghill for the Montana Taxpayers Association (MonTax) and Bruce Spencer, Montana Auto Dealers Association

Opponents' Testimony:

00:12:22 Dan Bucks, Director, Montana Department of Revenue (DOR)

Informational Testimony: None.

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

00:30:23 Sen. Kelly Gebhardt to Mr. Alke, MDU

00:33:41 Sen. Jim Peterson, to Mr. Olsen, MSCPAs

00:36:19 Sen. Robert Story to Director Bucks, DOR

00:46:50 Sen. Story to Ms. Franz, MSCPAs

00:51:00 Sen. Jim Elliott to Ms. Franz, MSCPAs

00:55:11 Sen. Elliott to Director Bucks, DOR

00:59:23 Sen. Elliott to Mr. Olsen, MSCPAs

01:02:01 Sen. Story to Mr. Olsen, MSCPAs
01:04:40 Sen. Elliott to Mr. Olsen, MSCPAs
01:05:28 Sen. Peterson to Mr. Olsen, MSCPAs
01:06:35 Sen. Jerry Black to Mr. Olsen, MSCPAs
01:07:33 Sen. Elliott

Closing by Sponsor:

01:08:12 Sen. Gillan closed on SB 378

01:15:35 Break
01:27:56 Reconvene

HEARING ON SB 400

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:28:14 **SEN. CHRISTINE KAUFMANN (D), SD 41**, opened the hearing on **SB 400**, Earned income tax credit.

Proponents' Testimony:

01:35:45 Olivia Riutta, WEEL
01:38:18 Moe Wosepka, Montana Catholic Conference

EXHIBIT (tas27a04)

01:40:35 Judy Smith, Director, homeWARD
01:45:09 Bill Kennedy, Yellowstone County Commissioner
01:47:41 Kim Abbott, Montana Human Rights Network
01:48:34 Jill Hill-Hart for Linday Daelin, homeWARD

EXHIBIT (tas27a05)

01:50:07 Tara Veazey, Attorney, Montana Legal Services

Opponents' Testimony: None.

Informational Testimony:

01:51:10 Brian Olsen, Montana Department of Revenue (DOR)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

01:52:19 Sen. Story to Ms. Smith, homeWARD

01:56:45 Sen. Story to Ms. Veazey, Montana Legal Services

01:58:22 Sen. Elliott

Closing by Sponsor:

01:59:21 Sen. Kaufmann closed on SB 400

HEARING ON SB 375

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

02:02:59 **SEN. DAN MCGEE (R), SD 29**, opened the hearing on **SB 375**, State tax incentive for national guard and reserve employers.

Proponents' Testimony:

02:07:10 Roger Hagan, Montana Officer and Enlisted Association

02:11:21 Tina Whitaker, Executive Director, ESGR

02:12:56 Colonel Jim Jacobsen, Legislative Liaison, American Legion of Montana

02:13:55 Rhonda Wiggers, Helena and Great Falls Chambers of Commerce

Opponents' Testimony: None.

Informational Testimony:

02:16:08 Brian Olsen, Montana Department of Revenue (DOR)

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

02:16:27 Sen. Gebhardt to Mr. Olsen, DOR

02:16:47 Sen. Kaufmann to Sen. McGee rereferred to Lee Heiman, Staff Attorney, Legislative Services Division (LSD)

02:18:07 Sen. Story to Sen. McGee

Closing by Sponsor:

02:18:40 Sen. McGee closed on SB 375

Discussion:

02:20:40 Sen. Elliott

02:21:08 Sen. Kaufmann

02:21:19 Sen. Essmann

02:22:26 Sen. Kaufmann to Mr. Heiman

02:22:43 Sen. Elliott

02:22:51 Sen. Gillan

02:23:26 Sen. Essmann

02:24:06 Sen. Gebhardt

02:24:57 Sen. Elliott

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 11:30 A.M.

SEN. JIM ELLIOTT, Chairman

LOIS O'CONNOR, Secretary

JE/lo

Additional Exhibits:

EXHIBIT ([tas27aad.pdf](#))