

**MINUTES**

**MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
61st LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

**COMMITTEE ON TAXATION**

**Call to Order:**

**CHAIRMAN BOB LAKE**, on January 27, 2009 at 8:00 A.M., in Room 152 Capitol.

**ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:**

Rep. Bob Lake, Chairman (R)  
Rep. Jill Cohenour, Vice Chairman (D)  
Rep. Janna Taylor, Vice Chairman (R)  
Rep. Dick Barrett (D)  
Rep. Mark Blasdel (R)  
Rep. Edward B. Butcher (R)  
Rep. Wanda Grinde (D)  
Rep. Robin Hamilton (D)  
Rep. Brian Hoven (R)  
Rep. Mike Jopek (D)  
Rep. Dave McAlpin (D)  
Rep. Mike Miller (R)  
Rep. Art Noonan (D)  
Rep. JP Pomnichowski (D)  
Rep. Lee Randall (R)  
Rep. J. David Roundstone (D)  
Rep. Jon Sonju (R)  
Rep. Wayne Stahl (R)  
Rep. Chas Vincent (R)  
Rep. Brady Wiseman (D)

**Members Excused:** None

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Jeff Martin, Legislative Branch  
Jennifer O'Loughlin, 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: HB 261, 1/26/2009; HB 300,  
1/26/2009; SB 48, 1/26/2009

Executive Action: None

**HEARING ON SB 48**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:02:01 Sen. Jeff Essmann (R), SD 28, opened the hearing on SB 48, Standardize statutes related to tax increment finance districts.

**Proponents' Testimony:** None

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:04:38 Rep. Wiseman

00:05:15 Sen. Essmann

00:05:46 Rep. Wiseman

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:06:03 Sen. Essmann

00:06:23 Chairman Lake closed the hearing.

**HEARING ON HB 261**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:06:48 Rep. Tom McGillvray (R), HD 50, opened the hearing on HB 261, Revise income tax laws related to certain exemptions and deductions.

[EXHIBIT \(tah19a01\)](#)

[EXHIBIT \(tah19a02\)](#)

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:17:23 Sen. Joe Balyeat

00:25:10 Don Hoffman, Montana Taxpayers Association

**Opponents' Testimony:**

00:25:55 Bob Decker, The Policy Institute

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:27:59 Rep. Butcher

00:28:59 Bob Decker

00:29:37 Rep. Butcher

00:30:23 Bob Decker

00:31:02 Rep. McAlpin

00:31:24 Bob Decker

00:31:31 Rep. McAlpin

00:31:47 Rep. Wiseman

00:32:24 Sen. Balyeat

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:35:12 Rep. McGillvray

00:39:12 Chairman Lake asked if there would be a revised fiscal note.

00:39:21 Rep. McGillvray

00:39:40 Rep. Cohenour

00:40:04 Chairman Lake asked that a fiscal memo be attached to the amendment.

00:40:17 Rep. McGillvray

00:40:33 Chairman Lake read a letter for the record from the Governor's Budget Office opposing HB 261.

[EXHIBIT \(tah19a03\)](#)

00:40:58 Chairman Lake closed the hearing.

**HEARING ON HB 300**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:41:23 Rep. Pat Ingraham (R), HD 13, opened the hearing on HB 300, Revise medical savings account laws.

[EXHIBIT \(tah19a04\)](#)

[EXHIBIT \(tah19a05\)](#)

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:46:03 Frank Cote, Blue Cross/Blue Shield

00:47:27 Pat Melby, Montana Medical Association

00:48:27 Mary Allen, National Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors

**Opponents' Testimony:**

00:49:17 Tom Bilodeau, Research Director, MEA-MFT

[EXHIBIT \(tah19a06\)](#)

**Informational Testimony:**

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:55:34 Rep Taylor

00:56:02 Rep. Ingraham

00:56:11 Rep. Taylor

00:56:41 Rep. Ingraham

00:56:53 Rep. Grinde

00:57:19 Rep. Ingraham

00:57:38 Rep. Cohenour

00:57:54 Rep. Ingraham

00:58:51 Rep. Wiseman

00:59:12 Mr. Martin

00:59:47 Rep. Wiseman

00:59:52 Mr. Martin

01:00:09 Rep. Wiseman

01:01:03 Ms. Allen

01:01:30 Rep. Wiseman

01:01:46 Mr. Martin

01:02:28 Rep. Wiseman

01:02:41 Rep. Cohenour

01:03:02 Rep. Ingraham

01:03:25 Rep. Cohenour

01:03:33 Rep. Ingraham

01:03:57 Chairman Lake

01:04:50 Rep. Ingraham

01:05:08 Chairman Lake  
01:05:21 Rep. Butcher  
01:05:42 Rep. Ingraham  
01:06:01 Rep. Miller  
01:06:23 Rep. Ingraham  
01:06:59 Rep. Grinde  
01:07:26 Mr. Martin  
01:07:34 Rep. Noonan  
01:09:40 Rep. Ingraham  
01:11:17 Rep. Miller  
01:11:51 Rep. Ingraham

**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:12:17 Rep. Ingraham  
01:13:36 Chairman Lake closed the hearing.  
01:13:42 Chairman Lake introduced The Montana Tax Digest into  
the record.

**EXHIBIT (tah19a07)**

01:14:24 Chairman Lake reminded committee members to talk to  
bill sponsors about proposed amendments.  
01:14:43 Mr. Martin  
01:14:52 Rep. Wiseman  
01:15:00 Chairman Lake announced that the committee he would  
initiate executive action on many of the bills heard so  
far this session, beginning Thursday, Jan. 29, and  
continuing Friday, Jan. 30.  
01:16:45 Rep. Wiseman  
01:16:58 Chairman Lake

**ADJOURNMENT**

01:17:35 Adjournment: 9:18 A.M.

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JENNIFER O'LOUGHLIN, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT ([tah19aad.pdf](#))**