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MEDA represents over 230 members, who are actively involved in local economic activity, community development, job retention and job creation for Montana.

April 10, 2013

TO: Chairman Bruce Tutvedt and members of the Senate Taxation Committee

RE: SJ30 Legislative interim study on TIFIDs

Hearing 4/12/13 Room 405 8:00am

Montana Economic Developers Association (MEDA) stands in support of SJ30. Tax Increment Financing Districts have been a successful economic development tool that provided for completion of projects across Montana. There are several bills under consideration by the 63rd Legislative Session that suggest changes to the way Tax Increment Finance Districts are structured. HB 443, for example, would place a 30 year limit on the length of a Tax Increment Finance District. SJ30 would provide a mechanism to study Montana's TIF's so that it can be determined how such a limit would impact the TIF process. In addition, the study of TIF's would allow for the understanding of impacts to local governments and schools.

In addition, SJ30 would help to clarify existing laws to ensure that local governments impacted by tax increment financing districts have methods to monitor compliance with tax increment financing laws; and demonstrate how revisions to existing law apply to current tax increment financing districts and projects developed or planned in relation to current districts.

Thank you for your consideration in support of SJ30.

For MEDA,

Tracy McIntyre, President

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