

SENATE TAX

Exhibit No. 8
Date 3/19/2015
Bill No. HB 262

March 14, 2015

The Honorable Bruce Tutvedt
Montana Senate
PO Box 200500
Helena, MT 59620-0500

RE: Support of House Bill 262

Dear Senator Tutvedt and Members of the Senate Taxation Committee,

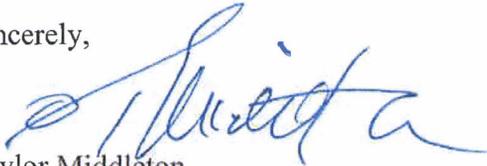
Big Sky Resort, Big Sky's largest employer and largest collector of the Resort Tax is standing with the Big Sky Chamber of Commerce and other local business leaders in support of HB 262. The legislation will allow Resort Tax communities to increase the maximum Resort Tax collection amount from 3% to 4% with the extra collections being allocated to historic preservation and/or development of affordable housing.

Summary Points of HB 262:

1. No effect on State's fiscal budget
2. Local control - requires resident election
3. Gives resort communities that typically have a higher cost of living an option to improve affordable housing
4. Employee shortages caused by housing shortages are a major economic development issue hindering contribution to improved state and county tax base

I hope that you can support us by voting yes to HB 262.

Sincerely,



Taylor Middleton

President and General Manager | Big Sky Resort

50 Big Sky Resort Road | PO Box 160001 | Big Sky, MT 59716

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