

MINUTES

MONTANA SENATE 65th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE ON TAXATION

Call to Order: Chair Mark Blasdel, on March 16, 2017 at 9:00 A.M., in Room 405 Capitol

ROLL CALL

Members Present:

Sen. Mark Blasdel, Chair (R)
Sen. Roger Webb, Vice Chair (R)
Sen. Dick Barrett (D)
Sen. Jill Cohenour (D)
Sen. Brian Hoven (R)
Sen. Sue Malek (D)
Sen. Edith (Edie) McClafferty (D)
Sen. JP Pomnichowski (D)
Sen. Tom Richmond (R)
Sen. Russel (Russ) Tempel (R)

Members Excused:

Sen. Scott Sales (R)
Sen. Fred Thomas (R)

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Jaret Coles, Legislative Branch
Prudence Gildroy, 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 331, 3/10/2017

Committee Work Session: SB 333

Committee Work Session on SB 333:

00:00:50 Chair Blasdel
00:01:48 Sen. Hoven
00:02:49 Kate Cholewa, Montana Cannabis Industry Association (MTCIA)
00:05:06 Sen. Hoven
00:05:14 Ms. Cholewa, MTCIA
00:06:40 Sen. Hoven
00:06:54 Brian Watson, Department of Health and Human Services (DPHHS)
00:07:40 Sen. Barrett
00:07:46 Sen. McClafferty entered the meeting.
00:08:23 Mr. Watson, DPHHS
00:08:55 Sen. Barrett
00:09:13 Mr. Watson
00:09:34 Sen. Barrett
00:09:46 Mr. Watson
00:10:40 Ms. Cholewa
00:11:25 Sen. Barrett
00:12:00 Ms. Cholewa
00:12:36 Sen. Hoven
00:12:56 Mr. Watson
00:14:28 Sen. Pomnichowski entered the meeting.
00:14:52 Sen. Hoven
00:15:30 Ms. Cholewa
00:16:22 Sen. Barrett
00:16:34 Sen. Malek
00:16:49 Ms. Cholewa
00:19:01 Sen. Malek
00:19:32 Ms. Cholewa
00:19:39 Sen. Malek
00:19:47 Gene Walborn, Department of Revenue (DOR)
00:19:56 Sen. Malek
00:20:15 Mr. Walborn, DOR
00:23:11 Chair Blasdel
00:23:42 Mr. Walborn
00:23:50 Sen. Malek
00:23:54 Sen. Cohenour entered the meeting.
00:24:03 Mr. Walborn
00:26:18 Sen. Malek
00:26:41 Mr. Walborn
00:27:03 Sen. Malek
00:27:11 Ms. Cholewa
00:28:07 Chair Blasdel
00:28:31 Sen. Malek
00:28:38 Sue O'Connell, Legislative Services Division (LSD)
00:28:57 Sen. Webb
00:29:29 Mr. Watson
00:29:44 Ms. Cholewa
00:30:44 Sen. Webb
00:31:01 Ms. Cholewa

00:31:30 Sen. Webb
00:31:54 Mr. Watson
00:36:08 Sen. Webb
00:36:37 Mr. Watson
00:37:23 Sen. Tempel
00:37:50 Mr. Watson
00:38:26 Ms. O'Connell, LSD
00:38:55 Sen. Tempel
00:39:16 Mr. Watson
00:39:33 Sen. McClafferty
00:40:07 Ms. Cholewa
00:42:20 Sen. McClafferty
00:42:37 Ms. Cholewa
00:42:55 Mr. Watson
00:44:10 Sen. Barrett
00:45:20 Mr. Watson
00:45:29 Chair Blasdel
00:45:58 Ms. O'Connell
00:47:11 Sen. Barrett
00:48:49 Sen. Malek
00:49:15 Sen. Barrett
00:49:17 Sen. Malek
00:50:09 Sen. Barrett
00:50:29 Chair Blasdel
00:50:54 Sen. Cohenour
00:52:30 Chair Blasdel
00:53:29 Ms. Cholewa
00:53:59 Chair Blasdel
00:54:28 Ms. Cholewa
00:54:38 Mr. Watson
00:56:39 Sen. Caferro
00:57:31 Chair Blasdel

00:58:55 Recess
01:08:24 Reconvene

HEARING ON SB 331

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

01:09:22 Sen. Mike Phillips (D), SD 31, opened the hearing on SB 331, Local option infrastructure investment and property tax relief act.

Proponents' Testimony:

01:19:32 Darryl James, executive director, Montana Infrastructure Coalition (MIC)
[EXHIBIT\(tas55a01\)](#)

01:28:56 Webb Brown, Montana Chamber of Commerce
[EXHIBIT\(tas55a02\)](#)

01:34:10 Chuck Stearns, former city manager, City of Whitefish
[EXHIBIT\(tas55a03\)](#)

01:38:27 Terry Johnson, private consultant, MIC
[EXHIBIT\(tas55a04\)](#)

01:43:55 David Trost, representing himself
01:45:45 Cyndy Andrus, deputy mayor, City of Bozeman
01:47:27 Carson Taylor, mayor, City of Bozeman
[EXHIBIT\(tas55a05\)](#)

01:51:53 Ron Alles, city manager, Helena
01:52:31 Steve Arveschoug, Big Sky Economic Development
01:55:59 Doug Russell, city manager, City of Kalispell
01:59:22 John MacDonald, City of Missoula
02:00:43 Bruce McCandless, assistant city administrator, City of Billings
02:03:04 Tim Burton, executive director, Montana League of Cities and Towns (MLCT)
02:06:19 Paul Reichert, Prospera Business Network
02:10:53 Bob Gilbert, City of Colstrip, City of Glendive
02:12:11 John Brewer, Billings Chamber of Commerce
02:14:45 Dan Brooks, Authorize Community Transformation
02:16:52 Bob Sivertson, Havre
[EXHIBIT\(tas55a06\)](#)

02:18:06 Cary Hegreberg, Montana Contractors Association
02:19:21 Jay Skoog, executive director, American Council of Engineering Companies
02:20:06 Daryl Schliem, Bozeman Chamber of Commerce
02:21:06 Jennifer James, American Institute of Architects, Montana Society of Engineers,
American Society of Civil Engineers
02:21:26 Chris Kukulski, City of Bozeman

Opponents' Testimony:

02:22:07 Bob Story, Montana Taxpayers Association
02:28:14 Brad Griffin, president, Montana Retail Association, Montana Restaurant
Association
02:29:41 Brad Longcake, Montana Petroleum Markets and Convenience Store
Association
02:34:41 Riley Johnson, Enterprise Holdings, National Federation of Independent
Business
02:37:27 John Alke, NorthWestern Energy
[EXHIBIT\(tas55a07\)](#)

02:41:54 Geoff Feiss, general manager, Montana Telecommunications Association (MTA)
[EXHIBIT\(tas55a08\)](#)

02:45:02 Jim Johnson, president, Montana Tavern Association
02:47:02 Mark Baker, AT&T, Charter Communications
02:48:20 Gary Forrester, Montana Dakota Utilities
02:48:57 John Bemis, CenturyLink

Informational Testimony: None

Questions from Committee Members and Responses:

02:50:16 Sen. Barrett
02:51:17 Sen. Phillips
02:52:49 Sen. Barrett
02:53:52 Mr. Feiss, MTA
02:56:06 Sen. Barrett
02:56:57 Mr. Feiss
02:57:32 Sen. Malek
02:58:08 Mr. James, MIC
03:01:45 Sen. Malek
03:02:02 Mr. James
03:02:30 Sen. Pomnichowski
03:03:58 Sen. Phillips
03:05:07 Sen. Pomnichowski
03:05:55 Sen. Phillips
03:07:44 Sen. Pomnichowski
03:08:22 Mr. Johnson, private consultant
03:09:45 Sen. Pomnichowski
03:10:38 Mr. Johnson
03:11:25 Sen. Hoven
03:12:10 Sen. Phillips
03:12:41 Sen. Barrett
03:13:04 Sen. Phillips
03:13:45 Chair Blasdel
03:14:30 Mr. Burton, MLCT
03:15:08 Mr. Stearns, City of Whitefish
03:18:26 Chair Blasdel
03:18:33 Mr. Stearns
03:18:56 Chair Blasdel
03:19:24 Sen. Phillips
03:20:17 Chair Blasdel left the meeting. Vice Chair Webb assumed the Chair.
03:20:18 Sen. Malek
03:20:32 Sen. Phillips
03:21:02 Sen. Malek
03:21:17 Mr. Burton
03:22:32 Sen. Tempel
03:22:58 Sen. Phillips
03:24:05 Sen. Tempel
03:24:18 Sen. Phillips

Closing by Sponsor:

03:25:10 Sen. Phillips
03:29:52 Chair Webb

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment: 11:30 AM

Prudence Gildroy, Secretary

pg

Additional Documents:

EXHIBIT([tas55aad.pdf](#))