

**HOUSE JOURNAL  
61ST LEGISLATURE  
TWENTIETH LEGISLATIVE DAY**

Helena, Montana  
January 28, 2009

House Chambers  
State Capitol

House convened at 1:00 p.m. Mr. Speaker in the Chair. Invocation by Dickenson. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Roll Call. All members present. Quorum present.

Rep. Ankney announced that On Monday January, 26th 2009 USMC Staff Sargent Trevor Johnson was killed in action while leading a patrol in Afghanistan. He leaves a wife, his mother Colleen, Father Tom, and a sister. The mother and father reside on the family ranch in Colstrip.

Mr. Speaker holds a \$50 bill, and challenges the members of the House to match his donation to help offset the cost of the secretary's medical bill, after breaking her arm over the weekend. Rep. Sands will be collecting the money

**COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS**

**BUSINESS AND LABOR** (Wilson, Chairman):  
**HB 114**, introduced bill, be amended as follows:

1/28/2009

1. Page 3, line 22.  
**Following:** "omission"  
**Insert:** "specifically"

And, as amended, do pass. Report adopted.

**HB 195**, introduced bill, be amended as follows:

1. Page 2, line 4.  
**Following:** "16-4-401"  
**Insert:** "for an on-premises consumption license"

2. Page 5, line 12.  
**Following:** "area"  
**Insert:** ", as prescribed in 16-4-105,"

And, as amended, do pass. Report adopted.

**JUDICIARY** (Stoker, Chairman):  
**SB 10**, be concurred in. Report adopted.  
**SB 125**, be concurred in. Report adopted.  
**HB 150**, do pass. Report adopted.

1/28/2009

**STATE ADMINISTRATION** (Himmelberger, Chairman):  
**HB 193**, introduced bill, be amended as follows:

1/28/2009

1. Title, page 1, line 4.  
**Following:** "OF THE"  
**Insert:** "STATE"

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2. Title, page 1, line 5.

**Following:** "TO"

**Insert:** "STATE"

**Following:** "SECTIONS"

**Insert:** "2-15-102,"

3. Page 1, line 10.

**Insert:** "**Section 1.** Section 2-15-102, MCA, is amended to read:

**"2-15-102. Definitions.** As used in this chapter, the following definitions apply:

(1) "Advisory capacity" means furnishing advice, gathering information, making recommendations, and performing other activities that may be necessary to comply with federal funding requirements and does not mean administering a program or function or setting policy.

(2) "Agency" means an office, position, commission, committee, board, department, council, division, bureau, section, or any other entity or instrumentality of the executive branch of state government.

(3) "Data" means any information stored on information technology resources.

(4) "Department" means a principal functional and administrative entity that:

(a) is created by this chapter within the executive branch of state government;

(b) is one of the 20 principal departments permitted under the constitution; and

(c) includes its units.

(5) "Department head" means a director, commission, board, commissioner, or constitutional officer in charge of a department created by this chapter.

(6) (a) "Director" means a department head specifically referred to as a director in this chapter and does not mean a commission, board, commissioner, or constitutional officer.

(b) The term does not include the state director of Indian affairs provided for in 2-15-217.

(7) "Executive branch" means the executive branch of state government referred to in Article III, section 1, and Article VI of the Montana constitution.

(8) "Function" means a duty, power, or program, exercised by or assigned to an agency, whether or not specifically provided for by law.

(9) "Information technology resources" means hardware, software, and associated services and infrastructure used to store or transmit information in any form, including voice, video, and electronic data.

(10) "Quasi-judicial function" means an adjudicatory function exercised by an agency, involving the exercise of judgment and discretion in making determinations in controversies. The term includes but is not limited to the functions of:

(a) interpreting, applying, and enforcing existing rules and laws;

(b) granting or denying privileges, rights, or benefits;

(c) issuing, suspending, or revoking licenses, permits, and certificates;

(d) determining rights and interests of adverse parties;

(e) evaluating and passing on facts;

(f) awarding compensation;

(g) fixing prices;

(h) ordering action or abatement of action;

(i) adopting procedural rules;

(j) holding hearings; and

(k) any other act necessary to the performance of a quasi-judicial function.

(11) "Quasi-legislative function" generally means making or having the power to make rules or set rates and all other acts connected with or essential to the proper exercise of a quasi-legislative function.

(12) "Unit" means an internal subdivision of an agency, created by law or by administrative action, including a division, bureau, section, or department, and an agency allocated to a department for administrative purposes only by this chapter."

**Renumber:** subsequent sections

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4. Page 2, line 5.

**Following:** "~~coordinator~~"

**Insert:** "state"

5. Page 5, line 30.

**Following:** "~~coordinator's~~"

**Insert:** "state"

And, as amended, do pass. Report adopted.

**TAXATION** (Lake, Chairman):

1/28/2009

**SB 10**, be concurred in. Report adopted.

**SB 43**, be concurred in. Report adopted.

**MESSAGES FROM THE SENATE**

**Senate bills** passed and transmitted to the House for concurrence:

1/28/2009

**SB 26**, introduced by Murphy

**SB 53**, introduced by Lewis

**SB 115**, introduced by Kaufmann

**SB 181**, introduced by Esp

**Senate joint resolution** passed and transmitted to the House for concurrence:

1/28/2009

**SJR 14**, introduced by Larsen

**FIRST READING AND COMMITMENT OF BILLS**

The following House bills were introduced, read first time, and referred to committees:

**HB 380**, introduced by Stahl, Jones, referred to Transportation.

**HB 381**, introduced by Miller, referred to Taxation.

**HB 382**, introduced by Hamilton, Boniek, Vincent, referred to Fish, Wildlife and Parks.

**HB 383**, introduced by Arntzen, D. Brown, Cohenour, Hamilton, Hendrick, Klock, Ingraham, McNutt, Menahan, O'Hara, Phillips, Pomnichowski, Taylor, Vincent, Squires, Story, referred to Fish, Wildlife and Parks.

**HB 384**, introduced by Villa, referred to Appropriations.

**HB 385**, introduced by Ebinger, Wilmer, Hamilton, Erickson, Villa, , Hollenbaugh, Furey, referred to Appropriations.

**HB 386**, introduced by O'Hara, McChesney, Squires, Reinhart, Steinbeisser, referred to Business and Labor

**HB387**, introduced by Reichner, referred to Transportation.

The following Senate bills were introduced, read first time, and referred to committees:

**SB 26**, introduced by Murphy, referred to Human Services.

**SB 53**, introduced by Lewis, referred to Human Services.

**SB 115**, introduced by Kaufmann, referred to Taxation.

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**SB 181**, introduced by Esp, referred to Taxation.

The following Senate Joint Resolutions were introduced, read first time, and referred to committees:

**SJR 14**, introduced by Larsen, referred to State Administration.

Rep. Phillips requested a caucus for 10 minutes in room 152.

Rep. Mendenhall announced that the House Republicans would stand at ease in the House.

Mr. Speaker the House will stand at ease for 10 minutes and reconvene at 1:20 p.m..

Mr. Speaker called the House to order at 1:24 p.m..

Rep. Campbell moved to pass consideration on **HB 133** for the day. Motion carried.

**SECOND READING OF BILLS  
(COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE)**

Majority Leader Campbell moved the House resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole for consideration of business on second reading. Motion carried. Representative Boland in the chair.

Mr. Speaker: We, your Committee of the Whole, having had under consideration business on second reading, recommend as follows:

**HB 40** - Representative Cohenour moved **HB 40** do pass. Motion **carried** as follows:

Yeas: Ankney, Arntzen, Augare, Barrett, Bean, B. Beck, P. Beck, Becker, Belcourt, Bennett, Berry, Blasdel, Blewett, Boland, Boniek, Boss Ribs, Brown, Butcher, Caferro, Campbell, Cohenour, Dickenson, Driscoll, Ebinger, Fleming, French, Furey, Getz, Glaser, Grinde, Hamilton, Hands, Hawk, Hendrick, Henry, Himmelberger, Hiner, Hollandsworth, Hollenbaugh, Hoven, Howard, Hunter, Ingraham, Jones, Jopek, Kasten, Kerns, Klock, Kottel, Lake, MacDonald, MacLaren, Malek, McAlpin, McChesney, McClafferty, McGillvray, McNutt, Mehlhoff, Menahan, Mendenhall, Milburn, Miller, More, Morgan, A. Noonan, P. Noonan, Nooney, O'Hara, Pease-Lopez, Peterson, Phillips, Pomnichowski, Randall, Regier, Reichner, Reinhart, Roberts, Roundstone, Sales, Sands, Sesso, Smith, Sonju, Stahl, Steenson, Stoker, Taylor, Vance, Van Dyk, Villa, Vincent, Wagner, Warburton, Washburn, Welborn, Wilmer, Wilson, Wiseman, Mr. Speaker.

Total 100

Nays: None.

Total 0

Excused: None.

Total 0

Absent or not voting: None.

Total 0

**HB 59** - Representative Hamilton moved **HB 59** do pass. Motion **carried** as follows:

Yeas: Ankney, Arntzen, Augare, Barrett, Bean, B. Beck, P. Beck, Becker, Belcourt, Bennett, Berry, Blasdel, Blewett, Boland, Boniek, Boss Ribs, Brown, Butcher, Caferro, Campbell, Cohenour, Dickenson, Driscoll, Ebinger, Fleming, French, Furey, Getz, Glaser, Grinde, Hamilton, Hands, Hawk, Hendrick, Henry, Himmelberger, Hiner, Hollandsworth, Hollenbaugh, Hoven, Howard, Hunter, Ingraham, Jones, Jopek, Kasten, Kerns, Klock, Kottel, Lake, MacDonald, MacLaren, Malek, McAlpin, McChesney, McClafferty, McGillvray, McNutt, Mehlhoff, Menahan, Mendenhall, Milburn, Miller, More, Morgan, A. Noonan, P. Noonan, Nooney, O'Hara, Pease-Lopez, Peterson,

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Phillips, Pomnichowski, Randall, Regier, Reichner, Reinhart, Roberts, Roundstone, Sales, Sands, Sesso, Smith, Sonju, Stahl, Steenson, Stoker, Taylor, Vance, Van Dyk, Villa, Vincent, Wagner, Warburton, Washburn, Welborn, Wilmer, Wilson, Wiseman, Mr. Speaker.

Total 100

Nays: None.

Total 0

Excused: None.

Total 0

Absent or not voting: None.

Total 0

**HB 147** - Representative MacLaren moved **HB 147**, second reading copy, be amended as follows:

1. Page 3, line 4.

**Following:** "DEBT"

**Insert:** "or"

Amendment adopted as follows:

Yeas: Ankney, Arntzen, Augare, Barrett, Bean, B. Beck, P. Beck, Becker, Belcourt, Berry, Blasdel, Blewett, Boland, Boss Ribs, Brown, Butcher, Caferro, Campbell, Cohenour, Dickenson, Driscoll, Ebinger, Fleming, French, Furey, Getz, Glaser, Grinde, Hamilton, Hands, Hawk, Hendrick, Henry, Himmelberger, Hiner, Hollandsworth, Hollenbaugh, Hoven, Howard, Hunter, Ingraham, Jones, Jopek, Kasten, Kerns, Klock, Kottel, Lake, MacDonald, MacLaren, Malek, McAlpin, McChesney, McCafferty, McGillvray, McNutt, Mehlhoff, Menahan, Milburn, Morgan, A. Noonan, P. Noonan, Nooney, O'Hara, Pease-Lopez, Peterson, Phillips, Pomnichowski, Randall, Regier, Reichner, Reinhart, Roberts, Roundstone, Sands, Sesso, Smith, Sonju, Stahl, Steenson, Stoker, Taylor, Vance, Van Dyk, Villa, Vincent, Wagner, Warburton, Washburn, Welborn, Wilmer, Wilson, Wiseman, Mr. Speaker.

Total 94

Nays: Bennett, Boniek, Mendenhall, Miller, More, Sales.

Total 6

Excused: None.

Total 0

Absent or not voting: None.

Total 0

**HB 147** - Representative MacLaren moved **HB 147** do pass as amended. Motion **carried** as follows:

Yeas: Ankney, Arntzen, Augare, Barrett, Bean, B. Beck, P. Beck, Becker, Belcourt, Blasdel, Blewett, Boland, Boss Ribs, Caferro, Campbell, Cohenour, Dickenson, Driscoll, Ebinger, Fleming, French, Furey, Glaser, Grinde, Hamilton, Hands, Hendrick, Henry, Himmelberger, Hiner, Hollandsworth, Hollenbaugh, Hunter, Ingraham, Jones, Jopek, Klock, Kottel, Lake, MacLaren, Malek, McAlpin, McChesney, McCafferty, McNutt, Mehlhoff, Menahan, Milburn, A. Noonan, P. Noonan, Nooney, O'Hara, Pease-Lopez, Phillips, Pomnichowski, Reinhart, Sands, Sesso, Sonju, Steenson, Stoker, Vance, Van Dyk, Vincent, Wilmer, Wilson, Wiseman.

Total 67

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Nays: Bennett, Berry, Boniek, Brown, Butcher, Getz, Hawk, Hoven, Howard, Kasten, Kerns, MacDonald, McGillvray, Mendenhall, Miller, More, Morgan, Peterson, Randall, Regier, Reichner, Roberts, Roundstone, Sales, Smith, Stahl, Taylor, Villa, Wagner, Warburton, Washburn, Welborn, Mr. Speaker.

Total 33

Excused: None.

Total 0

Absent or not voting: None.

Total 0

**HB 238** - Representative Milburn moved **HB 238** do pass. Motion **carried** as follows:

Yeas: Ankney, Arntzen, Augare, Barrett, Bean, B. Beck, P. Beck, Becker, Belcourt, Bennett, Berry, Blasdel, Blewett, Boland, Boniek, Boss Ribs, Brown, Caferro, Campbell, Cohenour, Dickenson, Driscoll, Ebinger, Fleming, French, Furey, Getz, Glaser, Grinde, Hamilton, Hands, Hawk, Hendrick, Henry, Himmelberger, Hiner, Hollandsworth, Hollenbaugh, Hoven, Howard, Hunter, Ingraham, Jones, Jopek, Kasten, Klock, Kottel, Lake, MacDonald, MacLaren, Malek, McAlpin, McChesney, McClafferty, McGillvray, McNutt, Mehlhoff, Menahan, Milburn, Miller, More, A. Noonan, P. Noonan, Nooney, O'Hara, Pease-Lopez, Phillips, Pomnichowski, Randall, Regier, Reichner, Reinhart, Roberts, Roundstone, Sands, Sesso, Smith, Sonju, Stahl, Steenson, Stoker, Taylor, Vance, Van Dyk, Villa, Vincent, Warburton, Washburn, Welborn, Wilmer, Wilson, Wiseman, Mr. Speaker.

Total 93

Nays: Butcher, Kerns, Mendenhall, Morgan, Peterson, Sales, Wagner.

Total 7

Excused: None.

Total 0

Absent or not voting: None.

Total 0

Majority Leader Campbell moved the committee rise and report. Motion carried. Committee arose. House resumed. Mr. Speaker in the chair. Chairman Ankney moved the Committee of the Whole report be adopted. Report adopted as follows:

Yeas: Ankney, Arntzen, Augare, Barrett, Bean, B. Beck, P. Beck, Becker, Belcourt, Bennett, Berry, Blasdel, Blewett, Boland, Boniek, Boss Ribs, Brown, Butcher, Caferro, Campbell, Cohenour, Dickenson, Driscoll, Ebinger, Fleming, French, Furey, Getz, Glaser, Grinde, Hamilton, Hands, Hawk, Hendrick, Henry, Himmelberger, Hiner, Hollandsworth, Hollenbaugh, Hoven, Howard, Hunter, Jones, Jopek, Kasten, Kerns, Klock, Kottel, Lake, MacDonald, MacLaren, Malek, McAlpin, McChesney, McClafferty, McNutt, Mehlhoff, Menahan, Milburn, Miller, Morgan, A. Noonan, P. Noonan, Nooney, O'Hara, Pease-Lopez, Peterson, Phillips, Pomnichowski, Regier, Reichner, Reinhart, Roberts, Roundstone, Sales, Sands, Sesso, Smith, Stahl, Steenson, Stoker, Taylor, Vance, Van Dyk, Villa, Warburton, Washburn, Welborn, Wilmer, Wilson, Wiseman, Mr. Speaker.

Total 92

Nays: McGillvray, Mendenhall, More, Randall, Sonju, Vincent, Wagner.

Total 7

Excused: None.

Total 0

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Absent or not voting: Ingraham.  
Total 1

**THIRD READING OF BILLS**

The following bills having been read three several times, title and history agreed to, were disposed of in the following manner:

**HB 13** passed as follows:

Yeas: Ankney, Arntzen, Augare, Barrett, P. Beck, Becker, Belcourt, Blewett, Boland, Boss Ribs, Caferro, Campbell, Cohenour, Dickenson, Driscoll, Ebinger, Fleming, French, Furey, Getz, Glaser, Grinde, Hamilton, Hands, Hendrick, Henry, Hollandsworth, Hollenbaugh, Hoven, Hunter, Jones, Jopek, Klock, Kottel, MacDonald, Malek, McAlpin, McChesney, McClafferty, McNutt, Mehlhoff, Menahan, Mendenhall, Morgan, A. Noonan, P. Noonan, Nooney, O'Hara, Pease-Lopez, Phillips, Pomnichowski, Reinhart, Roundstone, Sands, Steenson, Van Dyk, Villa, Welborn, Wilmer, Wilson, Wiseman, Mr. Speaker.  
Total 62

Nays: Bean, B. Beck, Bennett, Berry, Blasdel, Boniek, Brown, Butcher, Hawk, Himmelberger, Hiner, Howard, Ingraham, Kasten, Kerns, Lake, MacLaren, McGillvray, Milburn, Miller, More, Peterson, Randall, Regier, Roberts, Sales, Smith, Sonju, Stahl, Stoker, Taylor, Vance, Vincent, Wagner, Warburton, Washburn.  
Total 36

Excused: None.  
Total 0

Absent or not voting: Reichner, Sesso.  
Total 2

**HB 129** passed as follows:

Yeas: Ankney, Arntzen, Augare, Barrett, Bean, B. Beck, P. Beck, Becker, Belcourt, Berry, Blewett, Boland, Boss Ribs, Brown, Caferro, Campbell, Cohenour, Dickenson, Driscoll, Ebinger, Fleming, French, Furey, Getz, Glaser, Grinde, Hamilton, Hands, Hawk, Henry, Himmelberger, Hiner, Hollandsworth, Hollenbaugh, Hoven, Hunter, Jones, Jopek, Kasten, Klock, Kottel, MacDonald, MacLaren, Malek, McAlpin, McChesney, McClafferty, McNutt, Mehlhoff, Menahan, Milburn, Morgan, A. Noonan, P. Noonan, Nooney, O'Hara, Pease-Lopez, Peterson, Phillips, Pomnichowski, Regier, Reichner, Reinhart, Roberts, Roundstone, Sands, Sonju, Stahl, Steenson, Stoker, Taylor, Vance, Van Dyk, Villa, Washburn, Welborn, Wilmer, Wilson, Wiseman, Mr. Speaker.  
Total 80

Nays: Bennett, Blasdel, Boniek, Butcher, Hendrick, Howard, Kerns, Lake, McGillvray, Mendenhall, Miller, More, Randall, Sales, Smith, Vincent, Wagner, Warburton.  
Total 18

Excused: None.  
Total 0

Absent or not voting: Ingraham, Sesso.  
Total 2

**HB 205** passed as follows:

***STATE INTERNET/BBS COPY***

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Yeas: Ankney, Arntzen, Augare, Barrett, Bean, B. Beck, P. Beck, Becker, Belcourt, Bennett, Berry, Blasdel, Blewett, Boland, Boniek, Boss Ribs, Brown, Butcher, Caferro, Campbell, Cohenour, Dickenson, Driscoll, Ebinger, Fleming, French, Furey, Getz, Glaser, Grinde, Hamilton, Hands, Hawk, Hendrick, Henry, Himmelberger, Hiner, Hollandsworth, Hollenbaugh, Howard, Hunter, Ingraham, Jones, Jopek, Kasten, Kerns, Klock, Kottel, Lake, MacDonald, MacLaren, Malek, McAlpin, McChesney, McClafferty, McNutt, Mehlhoff, Menahan, Mendenhall, Milburn, Miller, More, Morgan, A. Noonan, P. Noonan, Nooney, O'Hara, Pease-Lopez, Peterson, Phillips, Pomnichowski, Randall, Regier, Reichner, Reinhart, Roberts, Roundstone, Sales, Sands, Smith, Sonju, Stahl, Steenson, Stoker, Taylor, Vance, Van Dyk, Villa, Vincent, Wagner, Warburton, Washburn, Welborn, Wilmer, Wilson, Wiseman, Mr. Speaker.

Total 97

Nays: McGillvray.

Total 1

Excused: None.

Total 0

Absent or not voting: Hoven, Sesso.

Total 2

**HB 221** passed as follows:

Yeas: Ankney, Arntzen, Augare, Barrett, Bean, B. Beck, Becker, Belcourt, Bennett, Berry, Blasdel, Blewett, Boland, Boniek, Boss Ribs, Brown, Butcher, Caferro, Campbell, Cohenour, Dickenson, Driscoll, Ebinger, Fleming, French, Furey, Getz, Glaser, Grinde, Hamilton, Hands, Hawk, Hendrick, Henry, Himmelberger, Hiner, Hollandsworth, Hollenbaugh, Hoven, Howard, Hunter, Jones, Jopek, Kasten, Kerns, Klock, Kottel, Lake, MacDonald, MacLaren, Malek, McAlpin, McChesney, McClafferty, McGillvray, McNutt, Mehlhoff, Menahan, Mendenhall, Milburn, Miller, More, Morgan, A. Noonan, P. Noonan, Nooney, O'Hara, Pease-Lopez, Peterson, Phillips, Pomnichowski, Randall, Reichner, Reinhart, Roberts, Roundstone, Sales, Sands, Smith, Sonju, Stahl, Steenson, Stoker, Taylor, Vance, Van Dyk, Villa, Vincent, Wagner, Warburton, Washburn, Welborn, Wilmer, Wilson, Wiseman, Mr. Speaker.

Total 96

Nays: P. Beck, Ingraham, Regier.

Total 3

Excused: None.

Total 0

Absent or not voting: Sesso.

Total 1

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mr. Speaker reminded the body that at 6:40 p.m. the gavel will fall and the Senate will enter the chambers at 7:00 p.m. He reminded the Representatives to clean their desks. Without objection the chambers will be cleared from 4:00 to 4:45 for a security sweep.

Committee meetings were announced by the committee chairs.

Representative Campbell moved that the House stand at recess until 6:40 p.m. on this 20th legislative day, to convene in a joint session in order to receive the Governor's State of the State address.



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House Recessed at 1:57 p.m.

House convened at 6:40 p.m. Mr. Speaker in the Chair. Roll Call. All members present. Quorum present.

Sgt-at-Arms Tensley notified the Speaker that honored guests of the House await entrance.

Mr. Speaker directed Sgt-at-Arms Tensely to escort the honored guests to the well of the House.

**MOTIONS**

Rep. Campbell moved that the House recess and await the Senate for the Governor's State of the State Address. Upon adjournment of the joint session, the House will adjourn until 1:00 p.m., Thursday, January 29, 2009. Motion carried.

Sergeant-at-Arms Tensley notified Mr. Speaker that the Honorable Senate of the State of Montana awaits outside the Chamber. Speaker Bergren requested Sergeant-at-Arms Tensley to admit the Honorable Senate into the House chamber. Speaker Bergren introduced Senate President Story and yielded the chair to him.

Sen. McGee moved that the body resolve itself into a joint session for the purpose of receiving the State of the State address from the Honorable Governor of Montana, Brian Schweitzer. Motion carried.

President Story asked the members to stand for the posting of the colors by the members of the Montana National Guard.

President Story introduced students from schools in Helena: Quincy Bjornberg, Mariah Gladstone, Sara Macdiarmid, Bowen Simpson, Sierra Simpson, Koltin Tanniehill, Kenzie Tanniehill and Kasstidy Tanniehill led by Indian Education Coach Joe Anderson, dressed in contemporary and traditional regalia to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Invocation by Bishop Thomas.

Sen. McGee moved the President be authorized to appoint a committee of four to notify Governor Schweitzer that the body is in joint session and ready to receive his address. Motion carried.

Senator President Story appointed Senator Laible, Senator Stewart-Peregoy, Representative Reichner, and Representative McClafferty to escort Governor Schweitzer into the House Chamber.

Sgt.-at-Arms Clark announced that his excellence, Governor Brian Schweitzer, waits entrance to the House. The committee escorted Governor Schweitzer into the chambers.

President Story directed Sgt.-at-Arms Clark to please admit the Governor.

Senate President Story introduced Governor Schweitzer to the joint session. Governor Schweitzer made the following remarks:

Mr. President, Mr. Speaker, my fellow Montanans.

It is my honor to address the 61st assembly of the Montana Legislature or as Yogi Berra said, "I want to thank everybody for making this day necessary."

First and foremost, I would like to thank my best friend for, as of last week 27 years, my business partner, my wife, the mother of our children, Nancy Schweitzer.

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And I'd like to introduce another woman important in my life. This woman is the daughter of Irish immigrants from the Hi-Line. They came, if you care, from Tyrone and from Donegal, my mother, Kathleen McKiernan Schweitzer.

And now, my friend, your Lieutenant Governor John and Karen Bohlinger. Thank you, John Bohlinger. Five years ago John and I came together with the simple proposition that we could accomplish more in Montana with a Republican and a Democrat working together in the executive office. Thanks for taking this journey for Montana, thank you, John Bohlinger.

And the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court and other members of the Supreme Court are here. Please stand. Please stand and be acknowledged.

And we have elected Tribal Leaders that are here today. Welcome the first Montanans to the most important place in Montana, these hallowed House chambers. Please stand, elected Tribal Members. Thank you. Thank you for being partners, thank you for being partners of Montana.

And if I may, I would ask President Story, Speaker Bergren, Minority (Leaders) Williams and Sales, to please stand, and with them all of the leaders of this body. Please stand, and let's give them a round of applause.

Since we met together last in this body, we've lost some extraordinary Montanans and first I want to mention my friend, your colleague, a man that was taken in his prime. I would like you to remember George Groesbeck.

I'd also like you to remember a former Lieutenant Governor by the name of Lieutenant Governor George Turman. George Turman, not unlike John Bohlinger, was a man who put Montana in front of his party; an extraordinary man.

And just recently, the wife of one of our greatest United States Senators, Donna Metcalf passed.

Also, during the last two years, two extraordinary men, who served to protect our highways, both gave their life while on duty in the Flathead. I'd like you to remember two highway patrolmen, Evan Schneider and David Graham.

In my pocket, I carry the names of the 35 men who have given their whole during this conflict in the Middle East. Today, we got word that one more extraordinary man, a Marine from Forsyth by the name of Trevor Johnson, has given his all. Please remember, in your heart, these men who have given all, and never forget their families. Never forget their sacrifice.

Montana is a land for the optimistic. For 400 generations and beyond, the first Montanans endured those tough winters knowing that surely spring would come, the snow would melt and the rivers would be renewed and refreshed again, the prairies would blossom, the buffalo and elk would be fat, and they, indeed, would be the bounty of the land.

And later, the miners came with just a pick and high hopes that around the next bend, or up the next gulch, or perhaps at the side of the mountain, they too would strike it rich.

And then the homesteaders, who planted the wheat in the spring with a prayer and harvested that crop with thanksgiving to God in the fall.

Members of this esteemed Legislature, we share a common history. Let us share a common sense of opportunity. We can accomplish more working together to build than we can tearing each other down.

The time is now for action, the families of Montana deserve nothing less. I urge you to move forward to escape the failures of the 60th Legislative Assembly, because as Benjamin Franklin said, "You may delay, but time will not."

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In 1916, a Democratic Governor of Montana, working with a Democratic President in Washington D.C., Woodrow Wilson, decided that it would be appropriate to encourage the citizens of Montana, and then later the people of this country to help spy on one another, and we passed the Sedition Act first in Montana.

We have a little experience with these ideas, and that's why I am so proud of this Legislative Assembly in 2005, when you wrote a letter to Washington, D.C., and asked them to repeal the Patriot Act, because it is not an American value for neighbors to spy on neighbors.

I would like to identify the leaders in this body who led in that effort. Representative Campbell, please stand, Representative Villa, Representative Wiseman, please stand, Senator Kaufmann, Senator Shockley, please stand, and Senator Cooney please stand for leading in this effort. Thank you very much, you are the patriots.

Thank you.

And in 2007, when the federal government was on the verge of requiring everyone in America to carry one of their cards so they could identify when you got on plane, where you went, how you got off, if you walked into a federal building, to track all of the movement of all American citizens. It was this body in 2007 that said no thank you to the real ID.

I would like Representative Sales to please stand, Representative Villa and Wiseman, please stand, and Senator Williams and Cooney, thank you for leading in this effort. Please stand. Thank you very much.

We now know that this so-called Patriot Act was used to spy on folks who were just political adversaries. History will not judge these last six years kindly, but that same history will recognize that it was the Montana Legislature that stood up. You were the real patriots. Thank you and God bless each and every one of you.

Together, working together, we've had a remarkable 4 years. In the last 4 years Montanans have created more new jobs with the highest wages in the history of Montana. We've diversified the economy and brought new industries to Montana. We've invested more new money in education, K-12 and higher education, than any time in history, and yes, Carol Williams, we now pay for full-time, all-day kindergarten in every single school in Montana.

And you've invested in a scholarship program so that the best and brightest from every community can afford to go to college. We've cut more taxes for more Montanans than any time in history, including a \$400 check to every homeowner.

Now, most states enter these uncertain times with big deficits, but because of your fiscal management, we have created the largest budget surpluses in the history of Montana. Thank you very much.

And we've attracted companies to come to Montana from all over America, indeed all over the world; from Australia, from Ireland, from Spain, from Germany, and Canada, and beyond.

Five years ago, just five years ago, Montana was increasing the members in our correction system at nearly the fastest rate in the nation, but this body recognized that more than 50% of the people in our correction system had a mental illness that we weren't treating, or more than 90% of the people in our correction system had a drug or alcohol addiction that we weren't treating. So this body began to reform the correction system in Montana, and we are now treating those who have a mental illness, who have a drug or alcohol addiction. According to the Pew Research Foundation, Montana is decreasing our correction population at the fastest rate in America. Thank you for your leadership.

Montana is dead center in the most important energy corridor on the planet, that corridor that runs from Fort

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McMurray, Alberta to Port Arthur, Texas. Montana, this is our time in history. I would like to thank this Legislature, because in 2005, you passed a renewable portfolio standard that attracted wind energy investors from around the country. And you followed that piece of legislation in 2007 with the Clean and Green Initiative that lowered the property taxes for people who wanted to build energy projects in Montana; and boy howdy, are they coming to Montana.

Now, there were those who doubted Montana's energy potential, but Montana is the land for optimists and so in the last 4 years, Montana has increased our oil production by 38%. That is greater than any other state in the Union; in fact, only five states have increased their oil production: Alaska, Texas, Louisiana, all decreasing oil production, and Montana's gas production is also up 34%. And optimists have come to Montana to open the first new coal mine, Signal Peak, near Roundup, for the first time in 20 years. Welcome to Montana, you optimists.

And the optimists have harnessed the wind in Montana, and during the last four years Montana has increased our wind energy portfolio at the fastest rate in the nation and I must add at the end, that an optimist from Australia has come to Montana and has partnered with the Crow Nation to build the nation's first large-scale coal-to-liquid plant called the "Many Stars Program." Welcome to Montana, you new optimists, and thank God the Crow Nation has found a partner from Australia.

Montana has taken the lead, because we need to create a new energy system, one designed by American engineers, built by American workers, that is cleaner, greener, lower carbon footprint and breaks our addiction to those petrodictators once and for all. And Montana has taken the lead.

A few years ago, I sat down with my father. He's 87 years old, the son of Montana homesteaders from the Ukraine, and I said to Dad, "What was the greatest change in your life when rural electrification came to the farm?" He considered the question for a bit, and then he said, "Well the greatest change, and it came in 1948, was that when rural electrification arrived at the farm we could weld at a little hotter temperature."

They'd had a wind charger on the farm since 1928 with batteries in the basement. Eighty years ago America had diversified, clean, green electricity with batteries in the basement in Kansas and Nebraska, in Iowa, in Minnesota, the Dakotas, in Montana, and today we are trying to find our way back.

I want to tell a story of two extraordinary members of this body, two members of this body who come from completely different places. One is a farmer, the other is a University professor. One is a Republican, one is a Democrat. But before the last legislative session they knew, both of them knew, to attract business to Montana, new alternative energy businesses to Montana, we needed to adjust our property tax rates so that we could attract these companies.

So these two men, one farmer, Llew Jones - Llew stand up, please stand up - and one professor, Ron Erickson - please stand up, Senator Erickson. Together they started an uncertain journey. That journey was to convince this body to change the tax code to attract these new companies to come to Montana. We had companies from around the world that testified and said, "If you change these laws, we will choose Montana, not Washington, not Idaho, not Wyoming, not North Dakota. We will choose Montana."

These two guys just couldn't stop thinking about tomorrow. They couldn't stop thinking about these jobs they would create for their children and grandchildren. So they wouldn't give up and one time, after another time, and a third time when the Senate rejected their idea, they would not stop thinking about tomorrow. They would not give up, and it was in the special session that these two extraordinary men were able to accomplish this extraordinary feat. We passed the legislation, and now in Llew Jones' district nearly a billion dollars worth of investment of transmission lines and wind energy is on its way. Thank you very much for believing in the future, and thank you for not giving up.

Eighteen states are taking action in America today - our competition, our coal competition from across the country.

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Wyoming's already passed a bill. Kansas, Oklahoma, Utah, Washington and another 12 states are in the process of passing a carbon sequestration bill. You see, the companies who build these coal-gasification plants now have technology to remove the carbon dioxide from the other gases, and the carbon dioxide as a pure stream can be pumped back into the earth.

Now in Wyoming, and in other states, 17, who are either passing or have passed this legislation, they recognize that coal-gasification companies will not come to your state until you create an ownership mechanism for that void space under the earth. There is no law that tells us who owns that land under the earth today. So, that man who can't stop thinking about tomorrow, Senator Erickson, is back at it again with Senate Bill 66. He has brought this before the Energy Committee, and he suggested to them that we ought to join other states and we cannot allow Wyoming to be ahead of us. Wyoming has now passed the legislation. They're attracting the companies to come because there is certainty in ownership of those void spaces.

Senator, don't give up. And I ask the six Republican Senators who tabled this bill, please reconsider, be part of the future. Don't stop thinking about tomorrow. We need this bill passed, to be able to compete in the energy world.

Tomorrow Premier Wall of Saskatchewan is flying down to meet with me to discuss CO2. For the last half dozen years, the coal-gasification plant in Beulah, North Dakota has been capturing CO2 and piping it to the oil fields of Saskatchewan, where they pump it back into the earth and enhance their oil production. He would like to talk to us about cross-province and state ideas of sequestering that CO2, because Premier Wall knows what many of the geologists in Montana know today - that maybe as valuable as the 120 billion tons of coal we have in Montana, is the extraordinary geologic formations that we have for storing CO2. Just three formations - the Porcupine Dome north of Forsyth, the Bowdoin in Northeast Montana, and the Kevin Dome in the Golden Triangle - just these three formations could store nearly 250 years of all of the CO2 that is produced by all of the coal plants in Montana today. And we have just scratched the surface in identifying these geologic structures. So please act quickly, act prudently, and don't stop thinking about tomorrow.

Montana's state budget is much better than nearly every other state in the Union. This international credit crisis did not start in Montana, nor will it end in Montana. The nature of Montana's economy shelters us from these irrational highs and the conservative fiscal management that we have in Montana will keep us from the deepest doldrums.

But nevertheless, these are serious times and it requires thoughtful leadership. I know it's hard for the families who have lost a job recently. I know they are tightening their budgets and then re-tightening their budgets, but there is help on the way.

We have created a rapid response team led by our Department of Health and Human Services and our Department of Labor, so that if you lost your job, we will get you to unemployment benefits; if you've lost your health insurance, we will get you health benefits; and if you want another job, we will help you find it. We will assist these workers who have experienced this personal downturn.

The federal stimulus package includes dollars to build transmission lines, and pipelines, and modernize our schools and to help take care of healthcare. Senator Baucus, as Chair of the Finance Committee, and Senator Tester on the Appropriations Committee, are helping to shape the stimulus package in a way that it works for Montana. In short, help is on the way, and Montana will remain optimistic like all of the generations before.

Now with all of this big talk of big federal dollars, some may be concerned about government accountability and transparency. Or, as Will Rogers said, "It's a good thing we don't get all the government we pay for." Well, I'm here to tell you, that we will protect the public's money. We will make government more efficient and we have already started. Montana state employees have agreed that for the next two years they will receive no increase in salary. Our state employees have already begun to lead.

We will assure that all of these dollars will be spent in an accountable and transparent way, and we will assure you

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that we will oversee our road-builders, our corrections officers, our healthcare workers, our school administrators and teachers, our universities, including the 170 million dollars of research funds with little oversight. And in return, the public can be assured that we will hold the members of this assembly, and myself, to the same high standard of accountability, of transparency, of efficiency, and of effectiveness.

Transparency begins with our own leaders fully disclosing any funds that they receive from any public sources such as salaries, or grants, consultancy fees, farm payments, grazing subsidies, state and federal leases, research grants, and retirement benefits accrued or received.

Now over the last four years, as you know, we didn't raise taxes; we were cutting taxes. And today, almost everybody in Montana knows that there is a re-appraisal of the property tax across Montana. We have committed that, on the basis of this re-appraisal, not one new dollar will be collected by the State of Montana. Not one new dollar.

In 2005 and 2007, we worked on the business equipment tax. We were hoping to eliminate the business equipment tax for 90% of the business in Montana, virtually every farm and ranch, and every small business. I would ask, you, the members of this 61st Assembly, to please finish the job and please eliminate the business equipment tax for 90% of the businesses in Montana.

In the recent election, Montana spoke and they spoke strongly. They told us that they believe that we ought to cover more children in the Child Health Insurance Program. By overwhelming numbers Montana voted to invest in the future by investing in children's health. I call on this body to follow Representative Chuck Hunter, and House Bill 157 - invest the money that the people of Montana have asked you, do it without dispatch. Thank you very much.

In 1985, this body passed a stream access bill. Now, during the last 20 years, the ball has bounced back and forth and forth and back and many legislative assemblies have attempted to get the balance just right. Well, Representative Kendall Van Dyk, please stand. Kendall, has brought forward a compromise, one that Republicans and Democrats alike are supporting.

I would like Kendal Van Dyk to be recognized as a man who was able to bring Montana together, bringing Republicans and Democrats together for a common cause. The families of Montana who like to hunt, camp, and fish are expecting you to finish this job, and the lobbyists who represent the out-of-state landowners, and the anti-fishing and hunting groups, will not fool the 61st Assembly of the Montana Legislature. Thank you very much, Kendall.

There is nothing as important as education in Montana. We do have one of the best K-12 systems in America as rated against the other states, but we're still behind Canada, and Taiwan, and Finland, and Singapore, and another two dozen countries around the world. We will continue to be a leader in energy, only if we are a leader in education.

I would like to honor a very special person today. This is a man who was trained as a geologist and engineer. He worked 25 years as a geologist, and then he said, "I want to change the world as an educator, not just as an engineer." And so he started taking credits online at the Western Governors University, and he accumulated enough credits to become a teacher. And now, he is a science teacher at Fairfield School. Ray Hahn, would you please stand. Please stand. Let's honor this scientist, who decided he wanted to give back. And could I ask every educator present today, would you please stand and be recognized by this body? Please stand if you are an educator. God bless you. You are the future.

Education innovation includes distance learning, as Ray found out. We need to push our universities to offer more distance learning courses, to stream those classes into the homes and the high schools of Montana, so that every high school student can take classes at the university level at the same time that they're getting credit at the high school level. We need to have a rapid ability to train, and re-train Montanans for these emerging jobs, and that means innovation in education, and we need to move now.

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Now, I know, as I look across this body, faces of Republican legislators, and faces of Democratic legislators. I remember during the campaign cycles, both Republicans and Democrats saying if elected, they would do their level best to raise teachers' salaries.

Furthermore, we heard many people say that we ought to have a tax system that is more similar to Wyoming's, where when they drill for oil and collect that oil, some of that money is directly used to pay higher teachers' salaries. I have been listening to you, I've been listening to Montana, and once again, Kendall Van Dyk has been listening, and he's proposed a bill, House Bill 388, which he calls "Energy for Education" or "E2."

Simply stated, these dollars from oil production would be used directly to increase teachers' salaries, but Montana would continue to maintain an oil tax rate that is lower than Wyoming. What could be better than that? Lower oil taxes, higher teachers' salaries.

For all of you who've told the folks back home that you support higher teachers' salaries, I think it is time to turn those promises into action. And if I were you, I would see Kendall Van Dyk and become a co-sponsor of his bill tomorrow morning.

We do have some difficult decisions to make together. These decisions aren't just about money; they're about people and families. Let us resolve to never forget who we work for. We work for the farmer, the miner, the single mom with a disabled child, the small businessman, the truck driver.

And to help us remember our common hope and optimism, I want to close with these words that have been spoken by others, "The real test of government is how that government treats those who are in the dawn of life...our children...how that government treats those who are in the twilight of life...the elderly...and how that government treats those who are in the shadows of life...the disabled...the handicapped...the sick."

Members of the 61st Assembly, we will be judged by our actions, not by our words.

Thank you. God bless you. God bless Montana, and God bless America.

President Story thanked the Governor for his State of the State Address.

Bishop Thomas gave the benediction.

President Story directed the select committee to escort Governor Schweitzer and the other honorable members from the joint session.

Sen. McGee moved that the joint session of the 61st Legislature be adjourned. Motion carried.

House adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

DAVE HUNTER  
Chief Clerk of the House

BOB BERGREN  
Speaker of the House