House convened at 1:00 p.m.  Mr. Speaker presiding.  Invocation by Representative Welch.  Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Roll Call.  All members present, except Representatives Mortensen and Stewart Peregoy, excused.  Quorum present.

Representative Dunwell rose on a **Point of Personal Privilege** to clarify her statement from the previous day regarding HB 52.  She meant to say the National Rifle Association supported the idea and mistakenly said they supported the bill.

**BILLS** (Ricci, Chair):

Correctly engrossed:  HB 301, HB 403.
Examined by the sponsor and found to be correct:  HB 334.
Transmitted to the Senate:  HB 443, HB 633, HB 639, HJR 14.
Signed by the Speaker at 8:30 a.m., March 18, 2019:  HB 33, HB 55, HB 86, HB 112, HB 198, HJR 4.
Signed by the Chief Clerk of the House at 9:00 a.m., March 18, 2019:  HB 33, HB 55, HB 86, HB 112, HB 198, HJR 4.
Signed by the President at 4:00 p.m., March 18, 2019:  HB 44, HB 58, HB 154, HB 247, HB 283.
Signed by the President at 6:00 p.m., March 18, 2019:  HB 30, HB 70, HB 142, HB 151, HB 259.
Signed by the President at 6:10 p.m., March 18, 2019:  HB 33, HB 55, HB 86, HB 112, HB 198, HJR 4.

**LEGISLATIVE ADMINISTRATION** (Ricci, Chair):

MR. SPEAKER:

We, your committee on Legislative Administration recommend that employment of the following pages of the House cease as of 8:00 a.m., Saturday, March 16, 2019:

Jenae Butcher, Winifred  
Collin Herriges, Helena  
Lalia Ketchum, Box Elder  
Bentley McCullough, Geraldine  
Davis Smith, Polson  
Caven Wade, Helena
and recommend the following pages of the House employed as of 1:00 p.m., Monday, March 18, 2019:

Daniel Asseltine, Choteau
Elliot Broni, Augusta
Jennifer Cahill, Scobey
Jacob Crowder, Culbertson
Kristen Ellsworth, Augusta
Emmy Martin, Harlowton

Report Adopted.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES

APPROPRIATIONS (Glimm, Chair): 3/13/2019
HB 652, introduced bill, be amended as follows:

1. Page 17.
Following: line 27
Insert: "NEW SECTION, Section 26. Coordination instruction. If House Bill No. 553 is not passed and approved, [this act] is void."
Renumber: subsequent sections


JUDICIARY (Doane, Chair): 3/18/2019
SB 36, be concurred in. Report adopted.
SB 82, be concurred in. Report adopted.
SB 84, be concurred in. Report adopted.
SB 85, be concurred in. Report adopted.

MESSAGES FROM THE GOVERNOR

March 18, 2019

The Honorable Greg Hertz
Speaker of the House
State Capitol
Helena, Montana 59620

Dear Speaker Hertz:

On Monday, March 18, 2019, I signed the following bills:
House Bill 56—Keane
House Bill 57—Z. Brown
House Bill 65—Regier
House Bill 73—Dudik

Sincerely,

STEVE BULLOCK
Governor

FIRST READING AND COMMITMENT OF BILLS

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

HB 693, introduced by F. Mandeville, referred to State Administration.
HB 694, introduced by J. Hamilton, referred to Business and Labor.
HB 695, introduced by J. Keane, G. Hertz, referred to Appropriations.

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

HJR 33, introduced by A. Olsen, M. Sweeney, referred to Agriculture.
HJR 34, introduced by A. Olsen, referred to Transportation.

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:

SB 83 concurred in as follows:

Total  97

Nays: DeVries.
Total  1
Voted absentee: None.

Excused: Mortensen, Stewart Peregoy.
Total  2

Absent or not voting: None.
Total  0

SECOND READING OF BILLS
(COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE)

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

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

**HB 404** - Majority Leader Tschida moved consideration of **HB 404** be placed at the bottom of the second reading board. Motion carried.

**HB 301** - Representative Loge moved **HB 301** do pass.

**HB 301** - Representative Loge moved **HB 301**, second reading copy, be amended as follows:

1. Title, page 1, line 8.
   - **Strike:** "AN EFFECTIVE DATE"
   - **Insert:** "EFFECTIVE DATES"

2. Page 8, line 22.
   - **Following:** "date."
   - **Insert:** "(1)"
   - **Strike:** "[This"
   - **Insert:** "Except as provided in subsection (2), [this"

   - **Following:** line 22
   - **Insert:** "(2) [Section 4] is effective January 1, 2020."

Amendment adopted as follows:


Total 99

Nays: Duram.
Total 1

Voted absentee: Mortensen, Stewart Peregoy, Aye.

Excused: Mortensen, Stewart Peregoy.
Total 2

Absent or not voting: None.
Total 0

HB 301 - Representative Loge moved HB 301, as amended, do pass. Motion carried as follows:

Total 80

Nays: Berglee, Burnett, DeVries, Doane, Dunn, Duram, Galt, Glimm, Knudsen C, Lenz, Moore E, Mortensen, Noland, Regier, Schreiner, Skees, Tschida, Zolnikov, Mr. Speaker.
Total 19

Voted absentee: Stewart Peregoy, Aye; Mortensen, No.

Excused: Mortensen, Stewart Peregoy.
Total 2

Absent or not voting: Olsen.
Total 1
HB 403 - Representative Usher moved HB 403 do pass.

HB 403 - Representative Zolnikov moved HB 403, second reading copy, be amended as follows:

1. Title, page 1, line 5.
   Following: "MINE;
   Strike: "AND"
   Insert: "REVISING THE PROPERTY TAX ABATEMENT FOR NEW OR EXPANDING UNDERGROUND MINES;"

2. Title, page 1, line 5.
   Strike: "SECTION"
   Insert: "SECTIONS"
   Following: "15-23-703"
   Insert: "AND 15-23-715"
   Following: "MCA"
   Insert: "; AND PROVIDING AN IMMEDIATE EFFECTIVE DATE"

3. Page 1, line 18.
   Strike: "5%"
   Insert: "2.5%"

4. Page 1, line 22.
   Following: "is"
   Insert: ":
   (A)"

5. Page 1, line 23.
   Following: "(f)(e)"
   Insert: "for the state mill levies; and
   (B) 5% against the value of coal as provided in 15-23-701(4) for the county and school district mill levies"

   Insert: "Section 2.  Section 15-23-715, MCA, is amended to read:
   "15-23-715.  New or expanding underground mines -- tax abatement.  (1) A county may abate taxation under this chapter for production from a new or expanding underground coal mine that is taxed at the rate provided in 15-23-703(1)(a) by 50% or less for up to 5 or 10 years by directing the department to levy the tax at a lower tax rate as provided in 15-23-703(1)(b).
   (2) An abatement must be authorized by the governing body of a county. Before an abatement authorization is effective, the school boards of all affected school districts must be notified of the abatement. The authorization must be made by a resolution of the county governing body after a public hearing. The county governing body shall publish notice of the hearing in a newspaper that meets the requirements of 7-1-2121. The notice must be published twice, with at least 6 days separating publications. The first publication may be no more than 30 days prior to the
hearing and the last publication must be at least 3 days prior to the hearing.

(3) An abatement authorization may be made for up to a 5-tax-year period, and upon expiration of that period, it may be authorized for one more 5-tax-year period additional periods of time up to 5 years as long as the underground mine continues to meet the requirements for a new or expanding mine provided for in subsection (4). The abatement of taxation for the second 5-tax-year period may be 50% or less. An abatement authorization must be made prior to the beginning of the property tax year in which the abatement is in effect. The department must be notified of each abatement authorization prior to the beginning of the tax year.

(4) (a) Production from a new underground mine is all production from a mine that in the year prior to the tax year in which the first abatement will apply had production of less than 500,000 tons of coal and the production during the course of the abatement period is estimated to be and actually amounts to at least five times the preabatement production amount has been in production for 20 consecutive years or less within the last 25 years.

(b) Production from an expanding underground mine is that portion of the mine’s production that exceeds the average production for the previous 3 years. To qualify for the abatement, the total of the prior average production and the new production may not decrease during the time of the abatement."

Insert: "NEW SECTION. Section 3. Effective date. [This act] is effective on passage and approval."

Amendment adopted as follows:

Total 59

Total 41

Voted absentee: Mortensen, Redfield, Stewart Peregoy, Aye.

Excused: Mortensen, Redfield, Stewart Peregoy.
Total 3

Absent or not voting: None.
Total 0
HB 403 - Representative Usher moved HB 403, as amended, do pass. Motion carried as follows:

Total  59

Total  41

Voted absentee: Mortensen, Redfield, Aye;  Stewart Peregoy, No.

Excused: Mortensen, Redfield, Stewart Peregoy.
Total  3

Absent or not voting: None.
Total  0

HB 525 - Representative Z. Brown moved HB 525 do pass. Motion carried as follows:

Total  71

Total  29

Voted absentee: Mortensen, Redfield, Stewart Peregoy, Aye.
Excused: Mortensen, Redfield, Stewart Peregoy.
Total  3

Absent or not voting: None.
Total  0

HJR 10 - Representative Doane moved HJR 10 do pass. Motion carried as follows:

Total  96

Nays: Burnett, DeVries, Fuller, Woods.
Total  4

Voted absentee: Mortensen, Stewart Peregoy, Aye.

Excused: Mortensen, Stewart Peregoy.
Total  2

Absent or not voting: None.
Total  0

SB 46 - Representative W. Sales moved SB 46 be concurred in. Motion carried as follows:

Total  83
Total 16

Voted absentee: Mortensen, Stewart Peregoy, Aye.

Excused: Mortensen, Stewart Peregoy.
Total 2

Absent or not voting: Windy Boy.
Total 1

SB 72 - Representative Dooling moved SB 72 be concurred in. Motion carried as follows:

Total 96

Nays: Redfield, Ricci, Tschida, White.
Total 4

Voted absentee: Mortensen, Stewart Peregoy, Aye.

Excused: Mortensen, Stewart Peregoy.
Total 2

Absent or not voting: None.
Total 0

SB 108 - Representative McKamey moved SB 108 be concurred in. Motion carried as follows:

Perry, Pierson, Pope, Read, Runningwolf, Ryan, Sales, Schreiner, Shaw, Smith,
Total 57

Nays: Bartel, Beard, Bedey, Berglee, Brown B, Burnett, Caferro, DeVries, Doane, Dunn,
Duram, Fleming, Fuller, Funk, Galloway, Galt, Glimm, Gunderson, Kassmier, Keane,
Knudsen C, Knudsen R, Krautter, Lenz, Mandeville, Manzella, Mercer, Moore E, Moore T,
Mortensen, Noland, Redfield, Regier, Ricci, Skees, Tschida, Usher, Vinton, Webb, White,
Windy Boy, Zolnikov, Mr. Speaker.
Total 43

Voted absentee: Stewart Peregoy, Aye; Mortensen, No.

Excused: Mortensen, Stewart Peregoy.
Total 2

Absent or not voting: None.
Total 0

SB 144 - Representative Perry moved SB 144 be concurred in. Motion carried as follows:

Yeas: Abbott, Anderson, Bachmeier, Bahr, Ballance, Bedey, Berglee, Bessette, Bishop, Brown
B, Brown Z, Burnett, Buttrey, Caferro, Curdy, Custer, DeVries, Doeling, Dudik, Dunn, Dunwell,
Duram, Farris-Olsen, Fern, Fitzgerald, Fuller, Funk, Galloway, Galt, Garcia, Garner, Greef,
Grubbs, Gunderson, Hamilton, Hamlett, Harvey, Hayman, Holmlund, Hopkins, Jones, Karjala,
Kassmier, Keane, Kelker, Keogh, Kerr-Carpenter, Knudsen R, Krautter, Krotkov, Lenz, Loge,
Lynch, Mandeville, Manzella, Marler, McKamey, Mercer, Moore E, Moore T, Morigeau,
Mortensen, Olsen, Peppers, Perry, Pierson, Pope, Read, Regier, Ricci, Runningwolf, Ryan,
Sales, Schreiner, Shaw, Skees, Smith, Stewart Peregoy, Sullivan, Sweeney, Vinton,
Weatherwax, Welch, Windy Boy, Winter, Woods, Zolnikov, Mr. Speaker.
Total 88

Nays: Bartel, Beard, Doane, Fleming, Glimm, Knudsen C, Noland, Redfield, Tschida, Usher,
Webb, White.
Total 12

Voted absentee: Mortensen, Stewart Peregoy, Aye.

Excused: Mortensen, Stewart Peregoy.
Total 2

Absent or not voting: None.
Total 0
SB 207 - Representative Z. Brown moved SB 207 be concurred in. Motion carried as follows:

Total 93

Total 7

Voted absentee: Mortensen, Stewart Peregoy, Aye.

Excused: Mortensen, Stewart Peregoy.
Total 2

Absent or not voting: None.
Total 0

SB 217 - Representative Fuller moved SB 217 be concurred in. Motion carried as follows:

Total 61

Total 39

Voted absentee: Mortensen, Stewart Peregoy, Aye.
HB 404 - Representative Kassmier moved HB 404 do pass. Motion carried as follows:

Total 63

Total 37

Voted absentee: Mortensen, Stewart Peregoy, Aye.

Excused: Mortensen, Stewart Peregoy.
Total 2

Absent or not voting: None.
Total 0

Majority Leader Tschida moved the Committee rise and report. Motion carried. Committee arose. House resumed. Mr. Speaker presiding. Chair Mercer moved the Committee of the Whole report be adopted. Report adopted as follows:

Total 83
Total 14

Voted absentee: None.

Excused: Mortensen, Stewart Peregoy.
Total 2

Absent or not voting: Manzella.
Total 1

MOTIONS

Majority Leader Tschida moved to re-refer HB 217 to the Appropriations Committee. Without objection, so ordered.

Majority Leader Tschida moved to re-refer HB 301 to the Appropriations Committee. Without objection, so ordered.

Majority Leader Tschida moved to re-refer HB 403 to the Appropriations Committee. Without objection, so ordered.

Majority Leader Tschida moved to re-refer HB 404 to the Appropriations Committee. Without objection, so ordered.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Committee meetings were announced by the committee chairs.

Majority Leader Tschida moved the House adjourn until 8:00 a.m., Tuesday, March 19, 2019.
Motion carried.

House adjourned at 2:52 p.m.