



The Big Sky Country

MONTANA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SPONSOR'S REBUTTAL TO FISCAL NOTE

House Bill Number: 253 Date Prepared: 1-25-23

Short Title: Provide for homestead exemption for primary residences.

Sponsor: STAFMAN

Generally, why do you disagree with the fiscal note?

See attached

Specifically, what in the fiscal note do you feel is flawed?

(Describe specific assumptions, calculations, technical issues, etc.)

See attached

What is your estimate of the fiscal impact?

Sponsor Signature: _____

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized initial 'S' followed by a long, sweeping horizontal line.

HB 253 FISCAL NOTE REBUTTAL

The fiscal note projects \$1,998,971 in administrative costs for setting up the system, but is otherwise positive for revenue. The administrative cost is based on the assumption that it will require 25 FTEs to process some 311,000 applications at the start. This assumes that it is all done manually, at 5 minutes for each application to be entered into the system. Paragraph 18.

However, this does not consider the possibility of doing this by allowing homeowners to sign up on line and electronically transferring that data over. This would require contracting with the vendor to create this system, but this should only involve one programmer for a few months, which would result in a fraction of the cost. Some people may still file manually, but it should be a far smaller amount, perhaps only 10% of the projected cost.