

A low-angle photograph of the Montana State Capitol building, showing the large green copper dome topped with a statue of Justice. The building's facade features classical architectural elements like columns and arched windows. The sky is a clear, pale blue.

2009

VOTING REVIEW

MONTANA LEGISLATURE &
GOVERNOR

THE MONTANA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

MESSAGE FROM THE MONTANA CHAMBER

The Montana Chamber of Commerce is pleased to present the 2009 Voting Review of the 61st Session of the Montana Legislature and the Governor.

This review is the most comprehensive look at the business and economic issues addressed during the 90-day session. In fact, our prior Voting Reviews have been nationally recognized as a model for other state and local chambers of commerce. Our intent in releasing the review is to provide our members and Montana voters with information on pro-business bills, anti-business bills, and how the legislators and the Governor voted on both.

Montana's employers are the fabric of our communities. They take risks everyday to keep Montana's economy working. Many legislators tried to add to those risks as we dealt with a number of anti-business bills. However, the business community, working together and with business-minded legislators, was able to stop the vast majority of those efforts to increase taxes, expand government regulation, decrease availability of health insurance, and mandate employment policies best left to a free and competitive marketplace. We also vigorously promoted our proactive, positive changes as outlined in our Montana Prosperity Plan.

We thank our 150 citizen legislators and our Governor. Whether we agree or agree to disagree on any particular business issue, we have the utmost respect and appreciation for every lawmaker. Legislators especially spend countless hours wading through hundreds of proposals, balancing competing interests, debating the issues that face the state, and voting for what they believe is best for their constituents and our state. We are grateful for their service to Montana.

We also thank you, the members, for your investment in the Montana Chamber. Your participation allows us to represent your business in Helena. We look forward to continuing towards our goal of making Montana an even better place to do business.

For more information on the Legislative Session, the 2009 Voting Review, or the advocacy efforts of the Montana Chamber of Commerce, please call our office at 406-442-2405.



Jon Bennion
Government Relations



Webb Brown
President/CEO



Chelsea Fagen
Health Benefits Director

RECAP OF THE 61ST LEGISLATIVE SESSION

The 61st Regular Session of the Legislature was much different from the 60th due to a variety of factors. First, the state fiscal situation changed considerably. In contrast with 2007, where the state had a record surplus, state revenues were constantly dropping during the session and spending increases had to be reduced. Although Montana was only one of a few states in the country that didn't see a budget shortfall, many lawmakers bemoaned the fact that little money was available to grow government.

In addition, the partisan control of both houses flipped while the number of Democrats and Republicans remained almost the same. The GOP controlled the Senate for the first time since 2003 with a 27-23 majority. The House was tied, 50-50, which allowed the Democrats to organize that body due to the fact that the Governor is a Democrat. Despite the relatively close numbers, the 61st session seemed to have fewer partisan quarrels compared to the previous session.

The Montana Chamber came to the 61st Session armed with a number of proactive ideas to move Montana toward long-term, sustainable growth. We dubbed our collection of good business ideas the "*Montana Prosperity Plan*." The plan included a number of pro-business ideas in the area of taxes, natural resource development, health care, work comp, good government, education and small business development. After the election produced a very divided government, we knew many of these ideas would face an uphill battle.

One of the biggest issues the Montana Chamber tackled was workers' compensation reform. Montana employers are currently paying the 2nd highest work comp premiums in the country, which hurts wages, reduces other benefits, profitability, and puts our state at a competitive disadvantage. We highlighted the issue early on in the session as one that required attention, and many lawmakers sensed the urgency to act. As shown in this Voting Review, we were able to pass some meaningful reforms as well as stopping all bills that would have added cost to the system.

As always, the Montana Chamber also focused on legislation that has a significant impact on small businesses. As part of our pro-active agenda, we helped introduce two bills that would require the state government to study the impacts of proposed rules and proposed laws on small businesses. In addition, we sought after Montana economic stimulus through business equipment tax relief.

The divided government made sure that the number of bills making it into the books was low. While we may have not passed all of our good reforms, we were very effective in preventing the passage of most bills we opposed. The number of bad bills that would increase taxes, regulation, liability, and other costs seemed staggering at times, but we took steps throughout the session to make sure they never made it into law. During the Interim, we will continue to represent your business in state matters, inform you of important interim work, and prepare for the next regular session in 2011. We are in Helena to represent your business every day throughout the year.

ABOUT THE LEGISLATIVE VOTING RECORD

Every voting study has a degree of subjectivity, and this report is no different. It is impossible, or at least very impractical, to report on each of the 150+ bills the Chamber followed. Neither can any voting record tell the entire story of a legislator's attitude and actions on issues important to business, including labor issues, overregulation, taxes and the environment. We try and select bills that were very important not only to the Montana Chamber, but to the business community as a whole. This review does, however, include the most bills (100+) of any review in the state from any organization.

METHODOLOGY BEHIND THE BUSINESS SCORE

Following last session's nationally recognized Voting Review, we have again compiled the most comprehensive review by the Montana Chamber to date. We started by selecting a number of floor votes from each house. For the first time ever, and for better accuracy, we have assigned different points for floor vote, since some bills are more important than others. We also looked at the votes of members who sat on important business-related committees, such as Business & Labor, Taxation, Natural Resources, Judiciary, and more. And finally, we added points for legislators who introduced pro-business bills and subtracted points for legislators who introduced anti-business bills.

Using all these factors allows the Montana Chamber to closely portray an individual lawmaker's overall friendliness to business, economic development, and job creation. Here is how the Legislative Business Score was calculated:

FLOOR VOTES: On floor votes, legislators earned between 1 and 6 points for each bill when the legislator supported the Chamber position. If a bill is assigned a higher point value, it indicates the bill was more important. No points were awarded for votes against the Chamber position.

For bills debated on the House or Senate floor, this Review usually used third reading votes as taken from the House and Senate journals. The third reading vote is the last vote on each bill, and represents a legislator's final decision on any matter before them. If a legislator was absent or excused for third reading, we went back and looked at how the legislator voted on second reading.

SPONSORSHIP POINTS: For bill sponsorship, 2 points were awarded to a legislator who sponsored a pro-business bill that was supported by Chamber. If a legislator sponsored an anti-business bill that was opposed by the Chamber, 2 points were subtracted. Although this may mathematically lead to some legislators having a score of more than 100% or less than 0%, all scores awarded fall within the range of 0% - 100%.

COMMITTEE VOTES: On committee votes, legislators were given 1 point for each bill when the legislator supported the Chamber position. No points were awarded for votes against the Chamber position. If a legislator did not sit on the evaluated committee, it did not affect the legislator's score.

P-BASE DISTRICT SCORE: We also included the Power Base (P-base) number for each district to the left of the Business Score. The P-base number is an indication of each district's support for business as measured by the 2008 scientific P-base poll of 800 Montana voters. A higher number reflects a more pro-business attitude among voters in the district. Those legislators who have scores in the same range as their district's P-base score are most likely representing their district according to the views of their constituents.

BUSINESS SCORE: Every legislator has a different number of points possible depending on their committee assignments and their sponsorship of bills. A legislator's individual points earned were divided by the total points possible for that particular legislator. This final number is the legislator's Business Score. While this score does not encompass all votes on business issues, it is a very reliable indicator of what level of priority the lawmaker puts on business and economic issues vs. other issues.

RECOGNITION OF PRO-BUSINESS LEGISLATORS

Most lawmakers do not get the thanks they deserve for their sacrifice and hard work. This is especially true of those legislators who stand up for business and economic development. Last session, we decided to do more to recognize the many legislators who are reliable voices for job creation, free enterprise and entrepreneurship. Here is a list of the awards we are giving out over the next year:

“CHAMPION OF BUSINESS” AWARDS: The Chamber will recognize eight legislators in each house of the legislature throughout the interim break with its “Champion of Business” award. To be considered for the “Champion of Business” award, we used the following criteria: (1) the legislator must have a higher Business Score than the P-base District score, which is the indicator of how pro-business the legislator’s constituents are; (2) no sponsorship of anti-business legislation; (3) the legislator must have either sponsored a piece of pro-business legislation or carried a pro-business bill on the floor; and (4) the legislator must have voted in favor of overriding the Governor’s veto SB 371, the Montana Chamber’s top priority for the session. Here are the recipients of the Montana Chamber “Champion of Business” award:

SENATE: Senators Keith Bales, Greg Barkus, Roy Brown, Jeff Essmann, Greg Hinkle, Gary Perry, Jim Peterson, Don Steinbeisser

HOUSE: Representatives Dee Brown, Chuck Hunter, Llew Jones, Bob Lake, Walt McNutt, Scott Mendenhall, Chas Vincent

“CHAMBER HONORABLE MENTION” AWARDS: Finally, we will also recognize legislators who helped out the Chamber in some way and voted more often than not with business for their strong commitments. To be considered for the “Chamber Honorable Mention” award, we used the following criteria: (1) the legislator must have a Business Score within 10 percentage points of the P-base District score, which is the indicator of how pro-business the legislator’s constituents are; (2) other factors including pro-business floor speeches, sponsorship of pro-business legislation, or carrying a pro-business bill on the floor; and (3) the legislator voted in favor of overriding the Governor’s veto of SB 371, the Montana Chamber’s top priority for the session. Here are the recipients of the Montana Chamber “Honorable Mention” award:

SENATE: Senators Balyeat, Barrett, Black, Brendan, T. Brown, Brueggeman, Curtiss, Gebhardt, Jackson, Laible, Lewis, McGee, Murphy, Shockley, Story, Tutvedt

HOUSE: Representatives Ankney, Arntzen, Bean, B. Beck, Berry, Blasdel, Boniek, Butcher, Ebinger, Hendrick, Himmelberger, Hollandsworth, Howard, Ingraham, Kasten, Kerns, Klock, MacLaren, McGillvray, Milburn, Miller, Morgan, Nooney, O’Hara, Randall, Regier, Reichner, Sales, Smith, Steenson, Stoker, Taylor, Warburton, Washburn, Welborn

SENATE VOTES

SB 371: (SEN. PERRY - BOZEMAN) CLARIFY WORK COMP LAWS

SB 371 was one of the Chamber's top priorities for the 61st Legislative Session. It clarifies the law for work comp injuries by stating the injuries which occur on breaks off the worksite or at an employer-sponsored recreational activity are not work-related. The Chamber led a coalition of supporters to pass the bill. The House passed the bill on 3rd reading, 62-38. The Senate concurred with the House amendments, 39-11. The Governor issued an amendatory veto, but the Legislature did not concur with his amendments. The Governor issued an outright veto, and the attempt to override the veto was unsuccessful. The original floor vote and the veto override vote are both included. The veto override vote (in yellow) is worth six points and the original vote (in blue) is worth three points.

SB 417: (SEN. KEANE - BUTTE) REVISE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT LAWS

SB 417 would encourage more responsible natural resource development by revising the Montana Environmental Protection Act. It clarifies the law by stating issues raised by an environmental impact statement cannot be the basis of a court challenge to a project. The Chamber supported the bill. The Senate passed the bill on 3rd reading, 29-21. The bill died on a tied vote in House FRET. This bill is worth 3 points.

SB 285: (SEN. JENT – BOZEMAN) LAWYER FEES IN WORK COMP

SB 285 would have changed the standard for work comp insurers when evaluating new claims. SB 285 would have removed the reasonableness standard, encouraged more attorneys to take work comp claims, and increased premiums. The Chamber opposed the bill. The Senate rejected the bill on 3rd reading, 24-26. This bill is worth 3 points.

SB 192: (SEN. ZINKE - WHITEFISH) WORK COMP RELIEF ACT

SB 192 allows the Montana State Fund to create separate pools for small businesses that develop safety programs, return-to-work policies, and show a record of a safe workplace over three years. The bill provides financial incentives for businesses that accomplish these important measures. The Chamber supported the bill. The Senate passed the bill on 3rd reading, 49-0. The House passed the bill on 3rd reading, 97-3. The Governor signed the bill into law. This bill is worth 3 points.

SB 224: (SEN. BROWN - BILLINGS) PAY BACK OLD FUND

SB 224 would take \$30 million dollars from the state general fund to pay off a deficit in the work comp Old Fund. The Legislature took money out in 2003 to balance the budget, but repayment is necessary to keep the Old Fund solvent and to avoid any new assessment on employers and employees. The Chamber supported the bill. The Senate passed the bill on 3rd reading, 32-17. A motion to blast the bill out of House Appropriations failed, 51-49. This bill is worth 3 points.

HB 150: (REP. DEE BROWN – HUNGRY HORSE) MONTANA RECREATION RESPONSIBILITY

HB 150 attempts to limit frivolous lawsuits against businesses that provide important recreation and tourist activities such as boating, nordic or alpine skiing, snow boarding, mountain climbing, whitewater rafting, hunting, fishing, backcountry trips and more. The Chamber supported the bill. The Senate passed the bill on 3rd reading, 34-16. The House concurred with the Senate amendments on 3rd reading, 65-29. The Governor signed the bill into law. This bill is worth 3 points.

**HB 483: (REP. JONES - CONRAD)
REVISING LAWS GOVERNING THE
PERMIT FOR ENERGY PROJECTS**

HB 483 would encourage more responsible energy development by limiting to 15 days the time a group may appeal the issuance of a permit, and limiting the appeal to items already reviewed by state regulators. The Chamber supported the bill. The House passed the bill on 3rd reading, 68-32. The Senate passed the bill on 3rd reading, 30-20. The Governor signed the bill into law. This bill is worth 3 points.

**SB 490: (SEN. ROY BROWN -
BILLINGS) SMALL BUSINESS
EQUIPMENT TAX RELIEF**

SB 490 would keep the current \$20,000 threshold in the law, but lower the tax rate from 3% to 2% for businesses with less than \$5 million in equipment. The Chamber supported the bill. The Senate passed the bill on 3rd reading, 33-17. A motion to blast the bill out of the House Taxation Committee failed, 49-51. This bill is worth 3 points.

**SB 503: (SEN. ESSMANN - BILLINGS)
MT ECONOMIC STIMULUS PLAN**

SB 503 lures more businesses to Montana and helps those businesses that remain in Montana for a certain period through increased capital gains tax credits. The Chamber supported the bill. The Senate passed the bill on 3rd reading. The House passed the bill on 3rd reading. The Governor vetoed the bill. This bill is worth 3 points.

**SB 89: (SEN. MITCH TROPILA –
GREAT FALLS) ELIMINATE SUNSET
ON WORKER TRAINING**

SB 89 eliminates the sunset provision in law on the Department of Commerce's worker training grants program. The Chamber supported the bill. The Senate passed the bill on 3rd reading, 42-7. The House passed the bill on 3rd reading, 80-19. The Governor signed the bill into law. This bill is worth 1 point.

**SB 388: (SEN. GILLAN - BILLINGS)
INCUMBENT WORKER TRAINING**

SB 388 provides new possibilities for Montana businesses that are interested in training existing employees. The Chamber supported the bill. The Senate passed the bill on 3rd reading, 42-7. The House passed the bill on 3rd reading, 68-32. The Governor signed the bill into law. This bill is worth 1 point.

**SB 234: (SEN. GILLAN - BILLINGS)
AUTISM COVERAGE MANDATE
FOR HEALTH INSURANCE**

SB 234 requires all private insurers to carry \$50,000 per year autism treatment coverage on all plans. This pricey new mandate will add cost to all people covered under private plans, including all businesses that offer health insurance. The Chamber opposed the bill. The Senate passed the bill on 3rd reading, 42-7. The House passed the bill on 3rd reading, 75-24. The Governor signed the bill into law. This bill is worth 1 point.

**SB 468: (SEN. BARKUS - KALISPELL)
ADMISSIBILITY OF SEAT BELT USE
EVIDENCE IN COURT**

SB 468 is a good legal reform measure that overturns a prohibition of evidence of seat belt use in court cases. The bill would allow a judge to determine if the evidence is relevant, rather than having a complete bar to the evidence. The Chamber supported the bill. The Senate passed the bill on 3rd reading, 31-19. The bill died in House Judiciary. This bill is worth 1 point.

**HB 529: (REP. JONES - CONRAD)
GENERALLY REVISE MEPA**

HB 529 would encourage more responsible energy development on state lands by restricting when the state can impede energy projects through excessive review. The Chamber supported the bill. The House passed the bill on 3rd reading, 71-29. The Senate passed the bill on 3rd reading, 33-17. The Governor signed the bill into law. This bill is worth 1 point.

SENATE

Voting Record/Business Score Key

- + = vote for Chamber position
- = vote against Chamber position
- A= Absent (not counted in score)
- E= Excused (not counted in score)
- Yellow** = 6 points, **Blue**= 3 points,
- Green** = 1 point

Chamber Position		y	y	y	y	y	y	n	y	y	y	n	y	y	y	y	Sponsor	Committee	District	Business
Bill		371	371	490	503	417	483	285	224	192	150	234	529	388	89	468	Points	Votes	P-Base	Score
Senator	Dist #																			
Bales, Keith	20	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+4	--	85	100%
Balyeat, Joe	34	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	+2	7/8	83	98%
Barkus, Gregory	4	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+4	8/8	65	100%
Barrett, Debby	36	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+		1/1	91	97%
Black, Jerry	14	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+		14/14	80	100%
Branae, Gary	27	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	+	-		4/10	33	25%
Brendan, John	18	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+		--	71	97%
Brown, Roy	25	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+6	13/13	28	100%
Brown, Taylor	22	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+		10/10	63	98%
Brueggeman, John	6	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+		--	55	89%
Cooney, Mike	40	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+		--	42	24%
Curtiss, Aubyn	1	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-2	2/2	86	93%
Erickson, Ron	47	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	+	-	-8	4/15	12	8%
Esp, John	31	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+2	6/7	55	87%
Essmann, John	28	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+4	9/10	60	100%
Gallus, Steve	37	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	+	-		--	33	45%
Gebhardt, Kelly	23	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+		14/15	90	94%
Gillan, Kim	24	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	+	+2/-2	5/10	50	31%
Hamlett, Bradley	10	-	+	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-		7/10	50	65%
Hansen, Ken (Kim)	17	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	-		--	45	29%
Hawks, Bob	33	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	-4	1/5	15	17%
Hinkle, Greg	7	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	+2	2/2	73	100%
Jackson, Verdell	5	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+		8/8	85	100%
Jent, Larry	32	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	-4	1/2	32	38%
Juneau, Carol	8	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	+	-		1/2	17	15%
Kaufmann, Christine	41	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	+	-	-8	2/10	35	0%
Keane, Jim	38	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	+	-	+2	6/8	12	41%
Laible, Rick	44	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+		--	66	97%
Larsen, Cliff	50	-	+	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	-		1/2	37	38%
Laslovich, Jesse	43	-	+	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	-	+2	1/2	46	43%
Lewis, Dave	42	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-		5/5	90	98%
McGee, Daniel	29	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	+		2/2	68	93%
Moss, Lynda	26	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	+	-		2/7	23	16%
Murphy, Terry	39	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+		2/2	56	100%
Perry, Gary	35	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+4	2/2	80	100%
Peterson, Jim	15	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+2	8/8	95	100%
Ripley, Rick	9	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+		--	85	82%
Schmidt, Trudi	11	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	+	-		--	32	21%
Shockley, Jim	45	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	+		2/2	78	75%
Squires, Carolyn	48	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	-		5/8	13	24%
Steinbeisser, Donald	19	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+4	8/8	81	100%
Stewart-Perego, Sharon	21	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	+	-		7/13	23	29%
Story, Robert	30	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-	+		9/10	76	94%
Tropila, Joe	13	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	+		6/8	48	46%
Tropila, Mitch	12	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+2	2/5	43	37%
Tutvedt, Bruce	3	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+2	10/10	98	100%
Wanzenried, David	49	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	+	-	+2/-2	--	17	21%
Williams, Carol	46	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	-		--	37	29%
Windy Boy, Jonathan	16	-	+	+	-	+	-	-	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	-2	6/8	25	48%
Zinke, Ryan	2	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+6	--	56	92%

HOUSE VOTES

**The Following Votes Were Used In The House Only Because There Was No Senate Floor Vote On These Bills. To See Summaries Of The Other House Floor Votes, See The Summaries On The Senate Floor Votes.*

HB 440: (REP. MENDENHALL - CLANCY) SMALL BUSINESS CONSIDERATION ACT

HB 440 was another one of the Chamber's top priorities for the 61st Legislative Session. It would have allowed a sponsor of a bill to request a small business impact study on the effects of the sponsor's bill. This was very important for small business, as many are greatly impacted by actions of the legislature, whether those impacts are intended or not. The bill died on a tie, party-line vote, 50-50. This bill is worth 3 points.



HB 345: (REP. KEN PETERSON – BILLINGS) UNFAIR CLAIMS SETTLEMENT PRACTICES ACT

HB 345 allows an award of attorney fees and expenses of an underlying liability claim as damages to the plaintiff in a subsequent insurance bad faith action. The bill would encourage more litigation, discourage insurers from defending defensible claims, and drive up the cost of insurance for all Montanans when our rates are already the highest in the region. The Chamber opposed the bill. The House passed the bill on 3rd reading, 52-48. The bill died in Senate Business & Labor, 1-10. This bill is worth 3 points.



ABOVE: Montana Chamber President Webb Brown (pictured on the right) discusses SB 371 with Representative Chuck Hunter (Helena – 79).

HB 566: (REP. JONES - CONRAD) REVISE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT LAWS

HB 566 would have prevented a judge from halting a permitted project that is being challenged. It would have also prevented a judge from ordering a state agency to make changes in the permit. The Chamber supported the bill. The bill died on a tied, party-line vote on 2nd reading, 50-50. This bill is worth 3 points.



ABOVE: Health Benefits Director Chelsea Fagen discusses health care with Senator Dave Lewis (Helena – 42).

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Voting Record/Business Score Key
 += vote for Chamber position
 -= vote against Chamber position
 A= Absent (not counted in score)
 E= Excused (not counted in score)
Yellow = 6 points, **Blue**= 3 points,
Green = 1 point

Representative	Dist #	Chamber Position															Sponsor Points	Committee Votes	District P-base	Business Score
		371	371	440	490	503	566	483	345	150	192	224	234	529	388	89				
Ankney, Duane	43	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	--	66	98%	
Arntzen, Elsie	53	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	9/9	32	98%	
Augare, Shannon	16	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	5/14	12	31%	
Barrett, Dick	93	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	+	-4	4/15	12	9%
Bean, Russell	17	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	2/2	73	98%	
Beck, Bill	6	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	10/10	88	100%	
Beck, Paul	59	+	+	-	-	+	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	6/11	65	53%	
Becker, Ariene	52	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	+	3/6	25	17%	
Belcourt, Tony	32	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	0/1	27	37%	
Bennett, Gerald	1	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	-	4/5	66	73%	
Bergren, Bob	33	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	+	--	33	13%	
Berry, Tom	45	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	9/9	91	98%	
Blasdel, Mark	10	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	13/14	75	96%	
Blewett, Anders	21	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	+	-2	2/5	33	11%
Boland, Carlie	23	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	5/15	33	20%	
Boniek, Joel	61	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	3/3	71	95%	
Brown, Dee	3	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	+	+4	2/2	71	98%
Butcher, Edward	29	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+2	14/15	93	100%
Caferro, Mary	80	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	+	-2	0/2	35	7%
Calf Boss Ribs, Frosty	15	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	0/3	20	21%	
Campbell, Margaret	31	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	--	15	30%	
Cohenour, Jill	78	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	+	+2/-6	4/15	51	11%
Dickenson, Sue	25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	+	0/1	55	12%	
Driscoll, Robyn	51	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	+	3/10	18	22%	
Ebinger, Bob	62	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+2	2/5	38	60%
Fleming, John	12	+	+	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	5/10	50	44%	
French, Julie	36	+	+	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	+	-4	0/1	70	32%
Furey, Timothy	91	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	5/10	45	32%	
Getz, Dennis	38	+	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	--	63	60%	
Glaser, William	44	-	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	--	60	75%	
Grinde, Wanda	48	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	4/15	45	24%	
Hamilton, Robin	92	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	4/15	15	27%	
Hands, Betsy	99	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	+	+2	0/1	7	17%
Hawk, Ray	90	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+2	--	70	85%
Hendrick, Gordon	14	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	2/2	68	98%	
Henry, Teresa	96	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	+	--	23	13%	
Himmelberger, Dennis	47	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+2	1/1	56	100%
Hiner, Cynthia	85	-	+	-	-	+	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	--	53	45%	
Hollandsworth, Roy	28	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	+	--	78	88%	
Hollenbaugh, Galen	81	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	+	-2	--	13	8%
Hoven, Brian	24	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	13/14	48	85%	
Howard, David	60	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	+	-	-	5/6	95	85%	
Hunter, Chuck	79	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	+	+	+	+4	7/10	43	58%
Ingraham, Pat	13	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	2/2	73	98%	
Jones, Llew	27	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+6	5/5	80	100%
Jopek, Mike	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	-2	3/19	42	20%
Kasten, Dave	30	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	--	91	95%	
Kerns, Krayton	58	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	-	4/5	55	87%	
Klock, Harry	83	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	14/14	85	98%	
Kottel, Deborah	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+2	2/5	38	27%

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Voting Record/Business Score Key
 + = vote for Chamber position
 - = vote against Chamber position
 A= Absent (not counted in score)
 E= Excused (not counted in score)
Yellow = 6 points, **Blue**= 3 points,
Green = 1 point

Representative	Chamber Position	Bill	Voting Record															Sponsor Points	Committee Votes	District P-base	Business Score
			y	y	y	y	y	y	y	n	y	y	y	n	y	y	y				
Lake, Bob	88	371	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+4	15/15	50	100%	
MacDonald, Margaret	54	371	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+		2/5	30	18%	
MacLaren, Gary	89	440	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+		6/6	86	100%	
Malek, Sue	98	490	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	-	-	+		0/2	25	26%	
McAlpin, Dave	94	503	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	-6	4/16	15	5%	
McChesney, Bill	40	566	-	+	-	-	-	-	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	+	+2	--	53	50%	
McClafferty, Edith	75	483	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+		2/6	18	24%	
McGillvray, Tom	50	345	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-		--	46	93%	
McNutt, Walt	37	150	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+6	--	93	100%	
Mehlhoff, Robert	26	192	-	+	-	-	+	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+		--	38	38%	
Menahan, Mike	82	224	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+		2/5	42	16%	
Mendenhall, Scott	77	234	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+2	--	60	100%	
Milburn, Mike	19	529	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-		8/10	58	94%	
Miller, Mike	84	388	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+		15/15	85	93%	
More, Michael	70	89	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-		4/6	60	80%	
Morgan, Penny	57	98	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	+	-		--	83	85%	
Noonan, Art	74	371	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+		3/19	40	20%	
Noonan, Pat	73	440	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+	-2	5/10	15	24%	
Nooney, Bill	100	503	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+		--	65	98%	
O'Hara, Jesse	18	483	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+		7/7	83	98%	
Pease-Lopez, Carolyn	42	345	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	+		--	23	30%	
Peterson, Ken	46	150	-	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	-	+	+	-2	6/7	81	64%	
Phillips, Mike	66	224	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	-	+		0/7	18	17%	
Pomnichowski, JP	63	234	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	+4/-4	3/15	50	15%	
Randall, Lee	39	529	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	-		14/14	98	91%	
Regier, Keith	5	388	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+		10/10	100	98%	
Reichner, Scott	9	89	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+		14/14	76	96%	
Reinhart, Michele	97	98	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	-4	5/9	5	12%	
Roberts, Don	56	371	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+		--	61	83%	
Roundstone, J. David	41	440	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	+		3/14	23	31%	
Sales, Scott	68	490	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-		--	90	95%	
Sands, Diane	95	503	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	+2	3/6	17	28%	
Sesso, Jon	76	483	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	+		--	2	23%	
Smith, Cary	55	345	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-		11/11	58	96%	
Sonju, Jon	7	529	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+		14/14	81	98%	
Stahl, Wayne	35	388	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	-		19/19	75	86%	
Stenson, Cheryl	8	89	+	+	-	+	+	-	-	-	+	+	+	-	-	+		--	46	65%	
Stoker, Ron	87	98	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-		5/6	88	96%	
Taylor, Janna	11	371	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-		14/14	61	96%	
Van Dyk, Kendall	49	440	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	-2	1/2	8	10%	
Vance, Gordon	67	490	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-		9/9	73	98%	
Villa, Dan	86	503	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+	+	-	-	+	+		--	37	30%	
Vincent, Chas	2	483	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+	+2	14/14	95	100%	
Wagner, Bob	71	345	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-		6/6	96	83%	
Warburton, Wendy	34	89	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	+		3/5	46	91%	
Washburn, Ted	69	98	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	+	-		3/3	100	88%	
Welborn, Jeffrey	72	371	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	+2	10/11	85	98%	
Wilmer, Franke	64	440	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+		0/2	25	12%	
Wilson, Bill	22	490	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	+	+		5/9	28	29%	
Wiseman, Brady	65	503	+	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	+	+2/-2	3/19	22	30%	

COMMITTEE VOTES

HOUSE BUSINESS & LABOR

Representative	Dist #	HB 101 - Wage Withholding	HB 119 - Revise Work Comp Laws	HB 138 - Revise Safety Laws	HB 204 - Revise Contractor Law	HB 283 - Work Comp Exemptions	HB 452 - Health Care Info in Comp	HB 579 - Paid Sick Leave Mandate	HB 603 - Project Labor Agreements	HJ 19 - Anti-Trade Resolution
		y	y	y	y	y	n	n	n	n
Arntzen, Elsie	53	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Augare, Shannon	16	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
Beck, Bill	6	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Beck, Paul	59	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	+
Berry, Tom	45	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Boland, Carlie	23	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
Fleming, John	12	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
Furey, Timothy	91	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
Hunter, Chuck	79	+	+	+	+	+	-	+	-	+
Klock, Harry	83	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Milburn, Mike	19	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	+
Noonan, Pat	73	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
Reichner, Scott	9	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Reinhart, Michele	97	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-
Smith, Cary	55	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Vance, Gordon	67	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Welborn, Jeffrey	72	+	+	+	-	+	+	+	+	+
Wilson, Bill	22	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-	-



ABOVE: Representative Pat Noonan (Butte – 73), a member of the House Business and Labor Committee, looks over a bill before a committee hearing.

BELOW: Representative Paul Beck (Red Lodge – 59, pictured on the right) talks to Montana Chamber Government Relations Director, Jon Bennion.



- HB 101** - Wage Withholding for Theft (Montana Chamber supported), passed 18-0
- HB 119** - Revise Work Comp Laws (Montana Chamber supported), passed 17-1
- HB 138** - Revise Employment Safety Act (Montana Chamber supported), passed 18-0
- HB 204** - Revise Ind. Contractor Law (Montana Chamber supported), passed 16-2
- HB 283** - Work Comp Exemptions (Montana Chamber supported), passed 18-0
- HB 452** - Health Care Info in Comp (Montana Chamber opposed), died 9-9
- HB 579** - Paid Sick Leave Mandates (Montana Chamber opposed), died 10-8
- HB 603** - Project Labor Agreements (Montana Chamber opposed), died 9-9
- HJ 19** - Anti-Trade Resolution (Montana Chamber opposed), died 11-7

HOUSE JUDICIARY

Representative	Dist #	HB 228 - Amendment to Gun Bill	SB 250 - Trademark Protections	SB 288 - Bonding for Enviro Suits	SB 402 - Clarify Takings Law	SB 468 - Seat Belt Use
		y	y	y	y	y
Becker, Arlene	52	+	+	-	-	-
Bennett, Gerald	1	+	+	+	+	-
Blewett, Anders	21	+	+	-	-	-
Driscoll, Robyn	51	+	+	-	-	-
Ebinger, Bob	62	+	+	-	-	-
Howard, David	60	+	+	+	+	-
Kerns, Krayton	58	+	+	+	+	-
Kottel, Deborah	20	+	+	-	-	-
MacDonald, Margaret	54	+	+	-	-	-
McClafferty, Edith	75	+	+	-	-	-
Menahan, Mike	82	+	+	-	-	-
More, Michael	70	+	-	+	+	-
Peterson, Ken	46	+	+	+	+	-
Regier, Keith	5	+	+	+	+	+
Sands, Diane	95	+	+	+	-	-
Stoker, Ron	87	+	+	+	+	-
Wagner, Bob	71	+	+	+	+	+
Warburton, Wendy	34	+	-	+	+	-

HB 228 - Amendment to Gun Bill (Montana Chamber supported), passed 18-0

SB 250 - Protections for Trademarks (Montana Chamber supported), passed 15-3

SB 288 - Bonding on Energy Projects (Montana Chamber supported), died 9-9

SB 402 - Clarify Takings Laws (Montana Chamber supported), died 9-9

SB 468 - Seat Belt Evidence Revisions (Montana Chamber supported), died 2-16



ABOVE: *Reps. Anders Blewett and Wendy Warburton are both members of the House Judiciary Committee.*



LEFT: *Representative Ron Stoker (Darby – 87, pictured on the right), who is Chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, talks to Representative Tom McGillvray (Billings – 50) before they go on the House floor to debate bills.*

HOUSE TAXATION

Representative	Dist #	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: small; margin-bottom: 5px;"> HB 163 - Movie Tax Credits HB 240 - BET Relief HB 395 - Income Tax Increase HB 487 - Clarify BET Tax Laws HB 642 - Centrally Assess Pipelines HB 647 - Withholding on Property HB 649 - BET with Bad Tax Bills HB 650 - Mineral Lease Withholding HB 651 - Generally Revise Tax Laws HB 652 - Prohibit Insurance Stuffing HB 668 - Revise Railroad Taxes HB 670 - BET Relief for Woodproduct SB 675 - Eliminate Oil Incentives SB 181 - Real Estate Tax Info </div>													
		Chamber Position	y	y	n	y	n	n	n	n	n	n	n	y	y
	Bill														
Barrett, Dick	93	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+
Blasdel, Mark	10	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Butcher, Ed	29	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Cohenour, Jill	78	+	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+
Grinde, Wanda	48	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+
Hamilton, Robin	92	+	-	-	+	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	+
Hoven, Brian	24	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Jopek, Mike	4	+	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+
Lake, Bob	88	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
McAlpin, Dave	94	+	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+
Miller, Mike	84	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Noonan, Art	74	-	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+	-	+
Pomnichowski, JP	63	+	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+
Randall, Lee	39	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Roundstone, J. David	41	+	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+
Sonju, Jon	7	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Stahl, Wayne	35	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Taylor, Janna	11	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Vincent, Chas	2	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Wiseman, Brady	65	+	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	+

- HB 163** - Movie Tax Credits (Montana Chamber supported), passed 16-4
- HB 240** - Business Equipment Tax Relief (Montana Chamber supported), died 10-10
- HB 395** - Higher Income Tax Rate (Montana Chamber opposed), died 10-10
- HB 487** - Clarify BET Leasing Laws (Montana Chamber supported), passed 20-0
- HB 642** - Centrally Assess Pipelines (Montana Chamber opposed), died 10-10
- HB 647** - Withholding on Property Trans (Montana Chamber opposed), died 10-10
- HB 649** - Business Equipment Tax Bill (Montana Chamber opposed), died 13-7
- HB 650** - Mineral Lease Withholding (Montana Chamber opposed), died 10-10
- HB 651** - Generally Revise Taxation (Montana Chamber opposed), died 10-10
- HB 652** - Prohibit Insurance Stuffing (Montana Chamber opposed), died 10-10
- HB 668** - Revise Railroad Taxes (Montana Chamber opposed), died 10-10
- HB 670** - BET Relief for Woodproducts (Montana Chamber supported), died 13-7
- HB 675** - Eliminate Oil Tax Incentives (Montana Chamber opposed), died 10-10
- SB 181** - Real Estate Tax Info Revisions (Montana Chamber supported), passed 20-0



Chairman Bob Lake and Rep. Mark Blasdel of the House Taxation Committee

HOUSE FEDERAL RELATIONS, ENERGY & TELECOM

HB 422 - Stop Tongue River Railroad (Montana Chamber opposed), died 7-7

SB 257 - Revise definition of renewable energy (Montana Chamber supported), passed 8-6

SB 387 - Revise Laws for BER (Montana Chamber supported), died 7-7

SB 417 - Revise Environmental Impact Laws (Montana Chamber supported), died 7-7

SB 498 - Carbon Sequestration Framework (Montana Chamber supported), died 7-7

Chamber Position	Bill	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: 8px; margin-bottom: 5px;"> HB 442 - Stop TR Railroad SB 257 - Revise Def of Renew Energy SB 387 - Revise Laws for BER SB 417 - Revise MEPA laws SB 498 - CO2 Sequestration Framework </div>				
		n	y	y	y	y
Representative	Dist #					
Augare, Shannon	16	-	-	-	-	-
Boland, Carlie	23	-	-	-	-	-
Driscoll, Robyn	51	-	-	+	-	-
Jones, Llew	27	+	+	+	+	+
Jopek, Mike	4	-	-	-	-	-
Klock, Harry	83	+	+	+	+	+
MacLaren, Gary	89	+	+	+	+	+
Noonan, Art	74	-	-	-	-	-
O'Hara, Jesse	18	+	+	+	+	+
Phillips, Mike	66	-	-	-	-	-
Regier, Keith	5	+	+	+	+	+
Reichner, Scott	9	+	+	+	+	+
Stahl, Wayne	35	+	+	+	+	+
Wiseman, Brady	65	-	-	-	-	-

SENATE ENERGY & TELECOMMUNICATIONS

SB 66 - Carbon Sequestration Standards (Montana Chamber opposed), died 5-6

SB 257 - Revise definition of renewable energy (Montana Chamber supported), passed 8-3

SB 387 - Revise Laws for BER (Montana Chamber supported), passed 6-5

SB 498 - Carbon Sequestration Framework (Montana Chamber supported), passed 11-0

SJ 24 - Endorse Western Climate Initiative (Montana Chamber opposed), died 5-6

Chamber Position	Bill	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: 8px; margin-bottom: 5px;"> SB 66 - Carbon Sequestration SB 257 - Revise Def of Renew Energy SB 387 - Revise Laws for BER SB 498 - CO2 Sequestration Framework SJ 24 - Western Climate Initiative </div>				
		n	y	y	y	n
Representative	Dist #					
Black, Jerry	14	+	+	+	+	+
Brown, Roy	25	+	+	+	+	+
Curtiss, Aubyn	1	+	+	+	+	+
Erickson, Ron	47	-	-	-	+	-
Esp, John	31	+	+	+	+	+
Gebhardt, Kelly	23	+	+	+	+	+
Hawks, Bob	33	-	-	-	+	-
Lewis, Dave	42	+	+	+	+	+
Moss, Lynda	26	-	-	-	+	-
Stewart-Peregoy, Sharon	21	-	+	-	+	-
Tropila, Mitch	12	-	+	-	+	-

SENATE BUSINESS, LABOR & ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

HB 101 - Wage Withholding for Theft
(Montana Chamber supported), passed 11-0

HB 119 - Revise Work Comp Laws (Montana Chamber supported), passed 10-1

HB 138 - Revise Employment Safety Act
(Montana Chamber supported), passed 11-0

HB 204 - Revise Ind. Contractor Law
(Montana Chamber supported), passed 11-0

HB 283 - Work Comp Exemptions (Montana Chamber supported), passed 11-0

HB 345 - Unfair Claims Practices Act
(Montana Chamber opposed), died 1-10

SB 195 - Ban Credit Scoring (Montana Chamber opposed), died 5-6

SB 494 - Bullying in the Workplace
(Montana Chamber opposed), died 5-6



ABOVE: *Senator Jonathan Windy Boy (Box Elder – 16) serves on the Senate Business, Labor & Economic Affairs Committee*



ABOVE: *Senator Jim Peterson (Buffalo – 15) serves on the Senate Business, Labor & Economic Affairs Committee and as Senate Majority Leader.*

Representative	Dist #	HB 101 - Wage Withholding	HB 119 - Revise Work Comp Laws	HB 138 - Revise Safety Laws	HB 204 - Revise Contractor Law	HB - 283 - Work Comp Exemptions	HB 345 - Unfair Claims	SB 195 - Ban Credit Scoring	SB 494 - New Employment Lawsuit
		Chamber Position	y	y	y	y	y	n	n
Bill									
Balyeat, Joe	34	+	-	+	+	+	+	+	+
Barkus, Gregory	4	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Brown, Roy	25	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Jackson, Verdell	5	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Keane, Jim	38	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-
Peterson, Jim	15	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Squires, Carolyn	48	+	+	+	+	+	-	-	-
Steinbeisser, Don	19	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Stewart-Peregoy, Sharon	21	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-
Tropila, Joseph	13	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-
Windy Boy, Jonathan	16	+	+	+	+	+	+	-	-

SENATE TAXATION

HB 163 - Movie Tax Credits (Montana Chamber supported), passed 7-4

HB 487 - Clarify BET Leasing Laws (Montana Chamber supported), passed 7-4

HB 670 - BET Relief for Woodproducts (Montana Chamber supported), passed 11-0

SB 36 - Waters Edge Corporation Tax (Montana Chamber opposed), died 5-6

SB 181 - Real Estate Tax Info Revisions (Montana Chamber supported), passed 11-0

SB 211 - Insurance Stuffing (Montana Chamber opposed), died 5-6

SB 258 - Revise Oil Tax Holiday (Montana Chamber opposed), died 4-7

SB 277 - Big Box Store Tax (Montana Chamber opposed), died 3-8

SB 317 - Non-cigarette Tobacco Tax Increase (Montana Chamber opposed), died 3-7

SB 459 - Repeal Capital Gains Tax Credit (Montana Chamber opposed), died 5-6



ABOVE: *Senator Bruce Tutvedt (Kalispell – 3) serves on the Senate Taxation Committee*

Representative	Dist #	HB 163 - Movie Tax Credits	HB 487 - Clarify BET Leasing Laws	SB 670 - BET Relief for Woodproducts	SB 36 - Waters Edge Corp Tax	SB 181 - Real Estate Tax Info	SB 211 - Insurance Stuffing	SB 258 - Revise Oil Tax Holiday	SB 277 - Big Box Store Tax	SB 317 - Non-cigarette Tobacco Tax	SB 459 - Repeal Capital Gains Credit
		Chamber Position	Bill	Bill	Bill	Bill	Bill	Bill	Bill	Bill	Bill
Black, Jerry	14	y	y	y	n	y	n	n	n	n	n
Branae, Gary	27	+	-	+	-	+	-	-	+	-	-
Brown, Roy	25	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Erickson, Ron	47	+	-	+	-	+	-	-	-	-	-
Essmann, Jeff	28	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Gebhardt, Kelly	23	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Gillan, Kim	24	+	-	+	-	+	-	-	+	+	-
Hamlett, Bradley	10	+	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	-
Kaufmann, Christine	41	-	-	+	-	+	-	-	-	-	-
Story, Robert	30	-	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
Tutvedt, Bruce	3	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+	+

OTHER COMMITTEES

HOUSE FISH, WILDLIFE & PARKS:

HJ 18 - Censure BNSF for river corridor scenery destruction (Chamber Opposed)

Vote with Chamber: Hendrick, Boniek, Milburn, Miller, O'Hara, Peterson, Smith, Van Dyk

Vote against Chamber: Barrett, Beck, Boland, Boss Ribs, Cohenour, McAlpin, Phillips, Pomnichowski,

HOUSE EDUCATION:

HB 388 - Impose oil and gas surtax for education payment (Chamber Opposed)

Vote with Chamber: Bean, Blasdel, Boniek, Brown, Butcher, Lake, Wagner, Washburn

Vote against Chamber: Beck, Boss Ribs, Fleming, Grinde, Hamilton, Malek, McClafferty, Wilmer

HOUSE STATE ADMINISTRATION:

HB 547 - Small Business Regulatory Flexibility in Rulemaking (Chamber Supported)

Vote with Chamber: Bean, Boniek, Brown, Hendrick, Himmelberger, Ingraham, MacLaren, Washburn

Vote against Chamber: Belcourt, Boss Ribs, Caferro, Hands, Malek, Phillips, Van Dyk, Wilmer

HOUSE HUMAN SERVICES:

HB 454 - Regulate bisphenol-A in consumer products (Chamber Opposed)

Vote with Chamber: Beck, Becker, Howard, Ingraham, More, Peterson, Smith, Stoker, Welborn

Vote against Chamber: Caferro, French, Furey, Hunter, McAlpin, Noonan, Sands

SENATE JUDICIARY:

SB 318 - Code of Corporate Responsibility (Chamber Opposed)

Vote with Chamber: Curtiss, Esp, Hinkle, McGee, Murphy, Perry, Shockley

Vote against Chamber: Jent, Juneau, Larsen, Laslovich, Moss

SB 250 - Trademark Protection (Chamber Supported)

Vote with Chamber: Curtiss, Hinkle, Jent, Juneau, Larsen, Laslovich, McGee, Moss, Murphy, Perry, Shockley

Vote against Chamber: Esp

SENATE NATURAL RESOURCES:

SB 180 - Establish Emission Standards (Chamber Opposed)

Vote with Chamber: Barrett, Curtiss, Gebhardt, Hansen, Keane, Perry, Peterson, Steinbeisser

Vote against Chamber: Kaufmann, M. Tropila, Wanzenried



BILLS SELECTED FOR SPONSORSHIP POINTS

Pro-Business Bills (Two Points Added)

HB 10 (Wiseman) Long Range Info Technology Funding	SB 142 (Perry) Repeal Unisex Insurance Law
HB 52 (McNutt) Fund Hydrogeologic Study	SB 181 (Esp) Real Estate Tax Info. Revisions
HB 71 (Sands) Repeal Sunset of Hospital Bed Tax	SB 192 (Zinke) Small Business Work Comp Relief
HB 81 (Lake) Study Impacts of Budget & Costs	SB 218 (McGee) Tax Credit for Guard Employers
HB 86 (Sands) Fund HIT and Record Sharing	SB 224 (R. Brown) \$30 million for Old Fund
HB 101 (Welborn) Wage Withholding for Theft	SB 244 (Balyeat) Taxpayer Fairness Act
HB 119 (Hunter) Revise Work Comp Laws	SB 250 (Wanzenried) Protections for Trademarks
HB 138 (Hunter) Revise Employment Safety Act	SB 253 (Steinbeisser) Tip Credit
HB 148 (Brown) Clarify Work Comp Law	SB 254 (Steinbeisser) CPI Repeal for Min. Wage
HB 150 (Brown) Montana Recreation Act	SB 257 (Keane) Revise definition of renewable energy
HB 163 (Cohenour) Movie Tax Credits	SB 288 (Hinkle) Bonding on Energy Projects
HB 174 (Hawk) Revise Term Limits	SB 304 (R. Brown) Keep Our Kids Tax Credit
HB 180 (Pomnichowski) Technology Districts	SB 305 (Tutvedt) Revise Subdivision Laws
HB 204 (Ebinger) Revise Ind. Contractor Law	SB 315 (Zinke) Business Equipment Tax Relief
HB 227 (McNutt) Medical Malpractice Reform	SB 348 (Essmann) Split Legislative Sessions
HB 240 (Lake) Business Equipment Tax Relief	SB 371 (Perry) Clarify Work Comp Law
HB 283 (Himmelberger) Work Comp Exemptions	SB 387 (Bales) Revise Laws for BER
HB 400 (Kottel) Revise Alcohol Content of Beer	SB 388 (Gillan) Incumbent Workforce Training
HB 418 (Butcher) Authorize Horse Plants	SB 389 (Zinke) Tip Credit Compromise
HB 440 (Mendenhall) Small Business Act	SB 402 (Peterson) Clarify Takings Laws
HB 483 (Jones) Revise BER Laws	SB 417 (Keane) Revise Environmental Impact Laws
HB 487 (McNutt) Clarify BET Leasing Laws	SB 427 (Laslovich) Restoration Damages Revisions
HB 529 (Jones) Generally Revise MEPA	SB 468 (Barkus) Seat Belt Evidence Revisions
HB 547 (McChesney) Small Business Reg Flex	SB 481 (Barkus) Exempt Stimulus from MEPA
HB 566 (Jones) Revise Environmental Statements	SB 490 (R. Brown) BET Rate Reduction
HB 569 (Hands) Fund Montana Housing Project	SB 498 (Bales) Carbon Sequestration Framework
HB 572 (Pomnichowski) Small Business Innovation	SB 503 (Essmann) MT Economic Stimulus Act
HB 670 (Vincent) BET Relief for Woodproducts	SJ 30 (Zinke) Study Work Comp Rates
SB 89 (M. Tropila) No Sunset on Worker Training	

Anti-Business Bills (Two Points Subtracted)

HB 345 (Peterson) Unfair Claims Practices Act	HB 675 (Wiseman) Eliminate Oil Tax Incentives
HB 388 (Van Dyk) Impose Oil and Gas Surtax	HJ 18 (Blewett) Censuring BNSF Railway
HB 394 (McAlpin) Prescription Drug Data	HJ 19 (Reinhart) Anti-Trade Resolution
HB 395 (McAlpin) Higher Income Tax Rate	SB 36 (Erickson) Waters Edge Corporation Tax
HB 405 (Reinhart) Criteria for Local Subdivisions	SB 66 (Erickson) Carbon Sequestration Standards
HB 408 (Pomnichowski) Work Comp Presumptions	SB 180 (Erickson) Establish Emission Standards
HB 422 (Cohenour) Stop Tongue River Railroad	SB 190 (Hawks) Bed Tax Revisions
HB 452 (P. Noonan) Health Care Info in Comp	SB 211 (Wanzenried) Insurance Stuffing
HB 454 (Barrett) Regulate bisphenol-A in products	SB 234 (Gillan) New Mandate for Autism Coverage
HB 579 (Cafferro) Paid Sick Leave Mandates	SB 258 (Kaufmann) Revise Oil Tax Holiday
HB 589 (Pomnichowski) Work Comp/OD Laws	SB 274 (Curtiss) Acquisition Value Amendment
HB 603 (Hollenbaugh) Project Labor Agreements	SB 277 (Kaufmann) Big Box Store Tax
HB 647 (Barrett) Withholding on Property Trans	SB 285 (Jent) Attorneys Fees in Work Com
HB 649 (Cohenour) Business Equipment Tax Bill	SB 317 (Kaufmann) Increase Non-cigarette Tax
HB 650 (French) Mineral Lease Withholding	SB 318 (Kaufmann) Code of Corp. Responsibility
HB 651 (Cohenour) Generally Revise Taxation	SB 384 (Jent) Disclosure of Insurance Policy Limits
HB 652 (McAlpin) Prohibit Insurance Stuffing	SB 459 (Erickson) Repeal Capital Gains Tax Credit
HB 668 (French) Revise Railroad Taxes	SB 494 (Windy Boy) Bullying in Workplace Lawsuit
HB 672 (Jopek) Cap Property Taxes Amendment	SJ 24 (Hawks) Endorse Western Climate Initiative

ABOUT THE GOVERNOR'S VOTING RECORD

Much like the legislative voting review, this report is the most comprehensive look of the governor's record on business issues. Like our Gubernatorial Review from 2007, we have included more than just bills that get to the governor's desk, including the lobbying efforts of the executive branch and any bills that originate from the executive branch. Very few Montanans know the governor's office and his executive branches spend hundreds of hours each session lobbying the legislature, and some are not required to report their lobbying hours.

This broad approach recognizes the true impact of the governor and executive agencies on the legislative process. Like the legislative review, the state's overall P-base score was shown to give Montanans a comparison of the governor's record to their own feeling towards business.

Here is how the governor's Business Score was calculated:

BILL SIGNINGS/VETOES: For every pro-business bill the governor signed, he received between 1 and 6 points. The point values match those awarded for legislative floor votes. For every anti-business bill the governor vetoed, he received the assigned points. No points were awarded for signing anti-business bills or vetoing pro-business bills.

SPONSORSHIP POINTS: For bill sponsorship, 2 points were awarded to the governor if an agency he oversees proposed a pro-business bill or if the idea came from the executive branch. If an agency he oversees sponsored an anti-business bill or if the idea came from his office, 2 points were subtracted.

COMMITTEE LOBBYING: The governor was also scored on the lobbying efforts of the agencies and departments he oversees in legislative committees. If an agency he oversees supported a pro-business bill or opposed an anti-business bill, he received one point. If an agency he oversees supported an anti-business bill or opposed a pro-business bill, he received no points.

BUSINESS SCORE: Finally, the governor's total points earned were divided by the total points possible. This final number is the governor's Business Score. While this score does not encompass every aspect of the governor's performance on business issues, it is a very reliable indicator of what level of priority he puts on business and economic issues.

BILLS SELECTED TO DETERMINE SPONSORSHIP POINTS

PRO-BUSINESS BILLS (TWO POINTS ADDED)

HB 119 (Hunter) Revise Work Comp Laws
HB 138 (Hunter) Revise Employment Safety Acts
HB 163 (Cohenour) Movie Tax Credits

ANTI-BUSINESS BILLS (TWO POINTS SUBTRACTED)

HB 388 (Van Dyk) Impose Oil and Gas Surtax
HB 603 (Hollenbaugh) Project Labor Agreements

COMMITTEE LOBBYING

While the governor almost never personally lobbies in legislative committee hearings, many of his representatives from various executive departments and agencies lobby bills. Since the governor is the head of the executive branch, these representatives speak on behalf of the governor and support his agenda. Bills selected for the sponsorship score were not used to determine the committee action score. The following bills were used to calculate points for committee action:

HB 240 (Lake) Business Equipment Tax Relief
 HB 388 (Van Dyk) Impose Oil and Gas Surtax
 HB 547 (McChesney) Small Business Reg Flex
 HB 566 (Jones) Revise Environmental Statements
 HB 603 (Hollenbaugh) Project Labor Agreements
 HB 647 (Barrett) Withholding on Property Trans
 HB 649 (Cohenour) Business Equipment Tax Bill
 HB 650 (French) Mineral Lease Withholding
 HB 651 (Cohenour) Generally Revise Taxation
 HB 652 (McAlpin) Prohibit Insurance Stuffing

SB 66 (Erickson) Carbon Sequestration Standards
 SB 180 (Erickson) Establish Emission Standards
 SB 181 (Esp) Real Estate Tax Info. Revisions
 SB 211 (Wanzenried) Insurance Stuffing
 SB 244 (Balyeat) Taxpayer Fairness Act
 SB 253 (Steinbeisser) Tip Credit
 SB 254 (Steinbeisser) CPI Repeal for Min. Wage
 SB 258 (Kaufmann) Revise Oil Tax Holiday
 SB 315 (Zinke) Business Equipment Tax Relief
 SB 402 (Peterson) Clarify Takings Laws
 SB 417 (Keane) Revise Environmental Impact Laws
 SB 481 (Barkus) Exempt Stimulus from MEPA
 SB 490 (R. Brown) Business Equipment Tax Cut

Chamber Position	n	n	y	y	n	n	n	n	n	n	
	House Bill#	240	388	547	566	603	647	649	650	651	652
Governor Schweitzer	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Chamber Position	n	n	y	n	y	y	y	n	y	y	y	y	y	
	Senate Bill#	66	180	181	211	244	253	254	258	315	402	417	481	490
Governor Schweitzer	-	-	+	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-



Governor
Brian Schweitzer

GOVERNOR'S BUSINESS SCORE:

Chamber Position	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	y	n	Sponsor Points	Committee Action	State P-Base	Business Score
Bill #	371*	371*	192	150	257	483	503	89	163	529	388	234				
Governor Schweitzer	-	-	+	+	-	+	-	+	+	+	+	-	+2	1/23 (4%)	53	31%

*The Governor had two opportunities to sign SB 371. On those two occasions he issued an amendatory veto and an outright veto. Like legislators who were scored on their original vote and the veto override vote, the Governor was scored on both actions.

