

# CITY OF MISSOULA LOBBYIST REPORT

*For the week of March 23 to March 27, 2015*

## **Direct Lobbying Update**

- 1) **HB213** - Revise business equipment tax.
  - a. Mike Miller's bill that we initially opposed due to no backfill for local communities. That was added and we withdrew opposition, although did not support the bill. It also was TABLED in committee.
- 2) **HB636** - Require legislative approval for acceptance of federal assistance funds.
  - a. City continues to OPPOSE. McDonald was unable to attend the hearing. Signed in as an opponent and spoke with Rep. Lamm to inform of position. Bill TABLED in committee.
- 3) **HB640** - Generally revise local government laws.
  - a. Talked with the Rep. Mandeville relating to adding \$100 appropriation (yes, that's \$100.00) from general fund to the department of commerce to make this an appropriations bill so it could survive transmittal was "cheeky." Discussed position with several other lobbyists and inquired with legislative legal services. McDonald was not privy to discussions they had with sponsor, and was not able to attend the hearing. MACO chimed in on our behalf. The bill was TABLED in committee.
- 4) **SB290** - Apply private motor carrier safety standards to certain publicly owned vehicles
  - a. Continued discussions with Rep. Keane to further amend this bill regarding motor carrier safety standards. Local governments are now exempt from the hours and logbook provisions. All emergency vehicles are also exempt. Requirement for lighting on certain vehicles remains.
- 5) **SB354** - Create infrastructure funding program.
  - a. City continues to SUPPORT. The initial hearing was canceled. Spoke with the sponsor that we were supportive, but likely would not be testifying. Hearing rescheduled to April 1<sup>st</sup>.
- 6) **SB404** - Revise education funding laws related to tax increment financing.
  - a. Testified in OPPOSITION due to impacts on local governments. Bill was TABLED in committee
- 7) **SB416** - Provide for statewide infrastructure.
  - a. City continues to SUPPORT. As with others, did not testify and signed in as supporters.

## **Amendment to Direct Lobbying Report for Week of 03-16 to 03-20-15**

- 1) **SB394**: Revise laws on calculating the value of intangible assets of centrally assessed companies.
  - a. Testified in OPPOSITION, along with the League, MACO and others. The bill would prohibit the state from including just about ALL intangible assets in assessing taxes resulting in a huge financial hit to state and local communities.

## **Bill Review Update**

- 1) 7 House Bills identified with review requests to City staff
- 2) 2 Senate Bills identified with review requests to City staff