

City of Missoula Lobbyist Report for Week of Jan. 31

Committees and Bills Testified:

House Joint Appropriations, HB11: Treasure state endowment program and transfers of money to the general fund. And HB 351: Treasure state endowment appropriations and transfers to the general fund. Brief testimony in favor of HB11. Signed in opposed to HB351

Senate Judiciary, SB 170: Revise medical marijuana laws on obtaining certificate for chronic pain. No testimony, but one of the many medical marijuana bills we are watching. Also SB196, addressing bullying in the workplace. No testimony. Tabled in Committee

Senate Local Government: SB 191: Require septic system disclosure on property sale. City/County worked together and provided written testimony from Jim Carlson.

House Local Government: HB 304: Generally revise laws relating to special districts. Testified in opposition.

House Human Services: HB 161: Repeal medical marijuana law. Monitored. Provided no testimony.

House Natural Resources: HB 352: Revise laws relating to water quality standards and provide alternatives. Coordinated with City/County health to ensure testimony on the record.

House Judiciary: HB384, Revise carrying concealed weapons in prohibited places. Testified in Opposition. Bill passed out of committee.

Senate Highways And Transportation: SB 235: Allow admissibility of seat belt use as evidence in civil cases. Testified in Favor. SB 251: Prohibit distracted driving. Had to monitor another meeting, but signed in as proponent and had Gordon Morris of Lewis and Clark County chime in on the city's behalf.

Other Direct Lobbying

Continued lobbying efforts regarding special districts; working with bill sponsor, city, MLCT and MACO on potential amendments. Continued lobbying efforts regarding subdivision for rent or lease issue. Continued lobbying efforts regarding separate proposed subdivision bill being by Rep. Esp. Continued lobbying efforts regarding proposed legislation to limit local governments from passing anti-discrimination ordinances. Worked with MLCT and MACO further on TIF legislation issues. Monitored and tracked status of TSEP funding bills and spoke with Missoula delegation members about the same.

Other Activities

Attended the Montana Chiefs of Police after-hours event. Attended a presentation by the City of Billings and Billings Chamber of Commerce regarding a TIF study they completed.