

MINUTES OF THE SENATE ASSESSMENT AND TAXATION COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman David Corbin at 10:55 a.m. on January 14, 2004, in Room 519-S of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Senator Barbara Allen
Senator David Haley
Senator Edward Pugh- excused

Committee staff present:

Chris Courtwright, Legislative Research Department
Martha Dorsey, Legislative Research Department
Gordon Self, Revisor of Statutes Office
Shirley Higgins, Committee Secretary

Conferees appearing before the committee:

Mike Murray, Sprint

Others attending:

See Attached List.

Senator Corbin introduced a new Committee member, Senator Phillip Journey, who was appointed to serve the senatorial district of Senator Nancey Harrington after she resigned in December 2003. Senator Journey fills the committee position left by Senator Stan Clark who now serves as a member of the Federal and State Affairs Committee.

Mike Murray, Sprint, requested the introduction of a bill which was discussed by the Interim Special Committee on Assessment and Taxation. The bill would reinstate the sales tax exemption on custom computer software customization services which was in place prior to 2002.

Chris Courtwright, Legislative Research Department, explained that, technically, the Interim Committee could not request the introduction of the bill because it was not a part of its charge to determine if the state should have a use tax on the sale of computer software customization services if the sales tax is to be retained. The Interim Committee discussed the issue at length and recommended that the 2004 Legislature strongly consider repealing the sales tax on custom computer software customization services.

Senator Buhler moved to introduce the bill, seconded by Senator Oleen. The motion carried.

Senator Taddiken moved to introduce a bill which would give Clay County the authority to ask voters to extend a sales tax used for roads and bridges, seconded by Senator Lee. The motion carried.

Senator Buhler moved to introduce a bill which would give Douglas County the authority to impose a sales tax for an economic development initiative for education, seconded by Senator Corbin. The motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for January 20, 2004.