

MICROFILM DIVIDER

OMB/RECORDS MANAGEMENT DIVISION
SFN 2053 (2/85) 5M



ROLL NUMBER

DESCRIPTION

2173

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Deanne Hall
Operator's Signature

10/17/03
Date

2003 SENATE FINANCE AND TAXATION

SB 2173

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2003 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. SB2173

Senate Finance and Taxation Committee

☐ Conference Committee

Hearing Date January 21, 2003

Tape Number	Side A	Side B	Meter #
1	X		30
Committee Clerk Signature <i>Mary Kay Lusk</i>			

Minutes:

Senator Urlacher opened the hearing on SB2173. All committee members present. This bill relates to a property tax levy authority for tourism promotion by a job development authority or industrial development organization.

Senator Tom L. Trenbeath, District 10 (mtr #40) - Is a sponsor of the bill. This bill is for the promotion of tourism. At present the law contains a section that allows the county to levy up to four mills for the creation of jobs. That could be clarified to fit this bill. Tourism is the 2nd fastest growing segment of our economy. The problem with the promotion in our area, depends on \$1000.00 contribution from each area. We (the area needing the promotion) would not object to additional tax burden for the purpose of this promotion. This bill allows one additional mill for the purpose of promoting tourism. The county would have to adopt it.

Senator Nichols (mtr #330) - Do the four cities have a sales tax? Do they use it for promotion?

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Senate Finance and Taxation Committee

Bill/Resolution Number SB2173

Hearing Date January 21, 2003

Senator Trenbeath (mtr #355) - Each of those cities have a mill levy for economic development.

Up to four mills can be levied. What the city doesn't levy, the counties can use.

Senator Urlacher (mtr #440) - What kind of dollars to the mills return?

Senator Trenbeath (mtr #445) - A mill in Pembina County returns \$25, 000.00.

Wayne Tieman, District 10 (mtr #490) - Urges support of SB2173. I am a member of a Job Development Authority. We are looking at making an impact because we (NE corner of ND) have a lot to offer. This one mill levy would allow us to hire a marketing director.

Senator Syverson (mtr #664) - Would the marketing director be a fulltime position?

Senator Tieman (mtr #670) - Would be partime initially.

Senator Urlacher (mtr #700) - Is there an overlap of services with the State Tourism Department?

Senator Tieman (mtr #745) - Their funds are limited and with the Lewis and Clark celebration right now, we would need more dollars.

Senator Nichols (mtr #800) - Will property owners become frustrated with the additional mill?

Senator Tieman (mtr #834) - We received overwhelming support from various towns and county commissions.

Terry Traynor, Association of Counties (mtr #979) - We are interested in the first part of the bill that expands definition to include tourism. Urge support of the bill.

Wade Moser, ND Stockmen's Association (mtr #1062) - No problem with tourism, but feel landowners have enough of a burden.

Senator Urlacher (mtr #1097) - Hearing closed on SB2173.

Senator Urlacher opened SB2173 to general discussion by the committee.

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Senate Finance and Taxation Committee
Bill/Resolution Number SB2173
Hearing Date January 21, 2003

Senator Urlacher - Appears the county commissioners will still control use of the mills. Would have a direct impact on property tax if all mills are used.

Senator Syverson (mtr #1180) - Tourism has been a big business in the state. For two counties to go together to enhance the tourism in their area is a great idea. The cost benefit consideration would support what the two counties are trying to do.

Senator Seymour (mtr #1285) - Sponsor did their research. I think it is a good idea.

Senator Urlacher - I would prefer that they use as much of the sales tax as possible.

Senator Nichols - Sales tax should be the correct vehicle to use for this purpose.

Senator Wardner - There are four mills available for jobs development? If all being used this bill allows another mill to be added for tourism.

Senator Urlacher - Not sure how much of four mills is being used by the county.

Senator Wardner - Would like to further review before acting.

Senator Urlacher - General discussion closed.

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10/17/03
Date

2003 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. SB2173

Senate Finance and Taxation Committee

☐ Conference Committee

Hearing Date January 22, 2003

Tape Number	Side A	Side B	Meter #
1	X		2,040
Committee Clerk Signature <i>Maureen Hall</i>			

Minutes:

Senator Urlacher opened the hearing on SB2173 (mtr #2040). All committee members are present. This bill relates to a property tax levy authority for tourism promotion by a job development authority or industrial development organization.

Senator Wardner (mtr #2077) - I would like to take 5 mills out. 4 mills are currently available.

Tourism can use anything that Jobs Development is not using. I don't want to increase the mill.

If Jobs Development is using all 4 mills, need to negotiate. Would like to amend pg. 3, line 11 & 13, and leave the 4 mills. Not sure if other areas of bill need to be changed.

Senator Nichols - I don't want to see a mill increase. Enough of a burden on real estate taxes.

Senator Tollefson - All those communities are home rule, they have the authority, if needed, to increase funding. Opposed to SB2173.

Senator Seymour - They are trying to get more dollars to a dying community.

Senator Tollefson motioned for a Do Not Pass. 2nd by Senator Nichols.

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Maureen Hall
Operator's Signature

10/17/03
Date

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Senate Finance and Taxation Committee

Bill/Resolution Number SB2173

Hearing Date January 22, 2003

Much further discussion followed.

Do not like to see taxes increased, commend these communities for trying to increase economic development.

Substitute motion made by Senator Wardner to amend line 11 & 13 on pg. 3, take out the 5 mills and put back to 4. This bill would then include tourism with economic development.

Senator Nichols - Would other wording need to be changed? Pg. 3, lines 4-8?

Senator Wardner - May need to say something different. I will talk to Legislative Council to limit the bill to 4 mills.

Senator Wardner motion to amend the bill. 2nd by Senator Seymour.

Senator Urlacher - No vote, will hold on bill until we see the wording of the amendment.

Senator Urlacher closed the hearing on SB2173

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2003 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. SB2173

Senate Finance and Taxation Committee

☐ Conference Committee

Hearing Date January 28, 2003

Tape Number	Side A	Side B	Meter #
1		X	5,520-end
2	X		1-152

Committee Clerk Signature

Minutes:

Senator Urlacher opened the hearing on SB2173. All committee members are present.

Senator Wardner (mtr #5520) - Amendment allows for 4 mills only. Can be used for Job Development or Tourism.

Senator Tollefson (mtr #6205) - Amendment just adds tourism to jobs development.

Senator Wardner - That is correct. Move to amend with .0101 to SB2173. 2nd by Senator Tollefson. Roll call vote to add amendment drafted by Legislative Council. 6 yea, 0 nay, 0 absent.

Senator Syverson motion for Do Pass as amended. 2nd by Senator Tollefson. Roll call vote 6 yea, 0 nay, 0 absent. Carrier is Senator Wardner.

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Operator's Signature

Date

30261.0101
Title.0200

Prepared by the Legislative Council staff for
Senator Wardner
January 23, 2003

FW
1-28-03

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO SENATE BILL NO. 2173

Page 1, line 1, remove "and subsection 29"

Page 1, line 2, remove "of section 57-15-06.7" and remove "property tax levy authority"

Page 1, line 3, remove "for"

Page 2, line 18, remove the overstrike over "~~limitation~~" and remove "limitations"

Page 2, line 21, after "any" insert "designated portion of the"

Page 2, remove lines 29 and 30

Page 3, remove lines 1 through 13

Renumber accordingly

Page No. 1

30261.0101

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Deanne Hall
Operator's Signature

01/17/03
Date

Date: _____
Roll Call Vote #: _____

2003 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 2173

Senate	Finance and Taxation	Committee
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☐ Check here for Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number _____

Action Taken Amendment

Motion Made By Sam L. Woodard Seconded By Sam T. Williams

[illegible]

Total (Yes) 1 No 0

Absent

Floor Assignment

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

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Operator's Signature

10/17/03
Date

Date: 1/28/03
Roll Call Vote #: 2

2003 SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 2173

Senate Finance and Taxation Committee

☐ Check here for Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number _____

Action Taken Do pass as amended

Motion Made By Sen. Syverson Seconded By Sen. Tollefson

Senators	Yes	No	Senators	Yes	No
Senator Urlacher - Chairman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Senator Nichols	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Senator Wardner - Vice Chairman	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		Senator Seymour	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Senator Syverson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
Senator Tollefson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				

Total (Yes) 6 No 0

Absent _____

Floor Assignment Sen. Urlacher

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

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10/17/03
Date

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE (410)
January 29, 2003 12:43 p.m.

Module No: SR-17-1253
Carrier: Wardner
Insert LC: 30261.0101 Title: .0200

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

SB 2173: Finance and Taxation Committee (Sen. Urlacher, Chairman) recommends AMENDMENTS AS FOLLOWS and when so amended, recommends DO PASS (6 YEAS, 0 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). SB 2173 was placed on the Sixth order on the calendar.

Page 1, line 1, remove "and subsection 29"

Page 1, line 2, remove "of section 57-15-06.7" and remove "property tax levy authority"

Page 1, line 3, remove "for"

Page 2, line 18, remove the overstrike over "~~limitation~~" and remove "limitations"

Page 2, line 21, after "any" insert "designated portion of the"

Page 2, remove lines 29 and 30

Page 3, remove lines 1 through 13

Renumber accordingly

(2) DESK, (3) COMM

Page No. 1

SR-17-1253

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10/17/03
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2003 HOUSE POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS

SB 2173

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Operator's Signature

10/17/03
Date

2003 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. SB 2173

House Political Subdivisions Committee

☐ Conference Committee

Hearing Date: February 27, 2003

Tape Number	Side A	Side B	Meter #
1	X		21.1-50.7
Committee Clerk Signature <i>Mickie Schmidt</i>			3-12-03

Minutes:

TAPE 1: SIDE A:

(21.1) CHAIRMAN GLEN FROSETH: We will call the committee back to order and open the hearing on SB 2173.

(21.2) REP. WAYNE TIEMAN: (Testimony in support) (See attachment #1 & #2- an amendment)

(29.9) CHAIRMAN GLEN FROSETH: There was a mix up of the benefactors for the four mills that you levy now for the job in development authority. With your amendment, it will increase that taxing authority to five mills. Would this amendment that you're proposing, would that jeopardize the Bill the way it came over from the Senate?

(30.7) REP. WAYNE TIEMAN: We have talked to both counties as far as what they have to offer. At present in Cavalier County they levy for the 4 mill, which goes directly into JVA. In the other counties they also do the same thing.

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Date

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House Political Subdivisions Committee

Bill/Resolution Number SB 2173

Hearing Date: February 27, 2003

(31.2) CHAIRMAN GLEN FROSETH: So this wouldn't affect those two counties?

(31.2) REP. WAYNE TIEMAN: No. This would be an option for any county.

(31.3) REP. GIL HERBEL: On the top line, second page, it says from each county, so this would go statewide for all counties. Would this then go to the vote of the people?

(31.6) REP. WAYNE TIEMAN: No. This would be with the County Commissioners who would make a decision on that.

(32.6) REP. ALON WIELAND: How many city/county combinations are levying the maximum of the four mill?

(33.6) REP. WAYNE TIEMAN: I don't know.

(33.9) REP. MIKE GROSZ: There's been a lot of debate on property taxes, especially in Pembina County. What would you say if I amended your amendment and take it to the vote of the people before they can levy that 1 mill?

(34.0) REP. WAYNE TIEMAN: We've had discussions with County Commissioners from both counties. They were very much in favor of us introducing this and they felt it was put into statutes that would be available to them. I know that these things change. So at this time, they're fine with the Bill with the amendment attached.

(35.7) SEN. TOM TRENBEATH: I want to clarify that there are two Bills that were agreed upon by Rep. Tieman, Monson and myself for the benefit of reaching the outer organizations and counties in the state. This was introduced by Rep. Tieman and the only reason it came in to the Senate is because there was a family emergency with Rep. Tieman's mother, and we missed the deadline. The other one is a Bill that originated in the Senate and that limits the liability of landowners for their use of the land and secondarily for recreation purposes. There are dual

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House Political Subdivisions Committee

Bill/Resolution Number SB 2173

Hearing Date: February 27, 2003

purposes for this Bill. The first one was to make sure that job development includes tourism. We also want the additional mill for promotional purposes.

(41.6) REP. GIL HERBEL: It effects different counties differently because of their ability to create tourism opportunities. Wouldn't it be advisable to let the people in those counties make that decision by the vote of the people?

(41.9) SEN. TOM TRENBEATH: I think in my county and yours, the County Commissioner is very sensitive to what people are saying and they know, and if they don't know, they make the effort to find out before they authorize any additional taxes.

(43.0) REP. GIL HERBEL: My county is \$680,000 in debt right now. I'm a little concerned that now we're supposed to do it for another mill levy and push that somewhere else, that's the problem.

(43.4) SEN. TOM TRENBEATH: I think you are correct. Our County Commissioner's are very conservative and they don't go lightly on taxing.

(44.3) WADE WILLIAMS; ASSOC. OF COUNTIES: (Testimony in support) We also support the amendment.

(45.5) CHAIRMAN GLEN FROSETH: If this was not up to the vote of the people, it would have to be put into the counties budget?

(46.0) REP. GIL HERBEL: Presently, how many of the counties are using that support? Are all of the counties using them up now?

(46.2) WADE WILLIAMS: No.

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House Political Subdivisions Committee

Bill/Resolution Number SB 2173

Hearing Date: February 27, 2003

(46.6) DALE ANDERSON; ND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ASSOC.: (Testimony in

support) The economic developers of the state are involved in growing in ND, from many different sectors.

(48.0) SANDY CLARK; ND FARM BUREAU: (Testimony is neutral) As the Bill stands before you, we like the fact that it went in with job development because of the 1 mill increase. The amendment we oppose.

(50.3) CHAIRMAN GLEN FROSETH: Any further testimony? Seeing none, we will close the hearing on SB 2173. **(50.7)**

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Operator's Signature

10/17/03
Date

2003 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. SB 2173a

House Political Subdivisions Committee

☐ Conference Committee

Hearing Date: February 27, 2003

Tape Number	Side A	Side B	Meter #
2	X		0.0-0.9
Committee Clerk Signature <i>Mickie Schmidt</i> 3-12-03			

Minutes:

TAPE 2; SIDE A:

(0.0) CHAIRMAN GLEN FROSETH: Let's take a look at SB 2173 again.

(0.1) REP. GIL HERBEL: That's what I would like to see, before we act on the Bill, Wade Williams was going to get a list of what counties already have. My concern is we establish a particular group of mills to be used for a certain thing and then they find out that that money isn't being used and then we get asked to be consolidated with some other group of mills so they can spend that money and use it for something else. If they aren't using all of the mills, why not use one of those mills to do what they want to do with them. Property taxation has gotten to the point where I think the rights of the people need to be heard. I will work on this.

(0.8) CHAIRMAN GLEN FROSETH: We will hold this one to do some work on it.

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12/17/03
Date

2003 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. SB 2173b

House Political Subdivisions Committee

☐ Conference Committee

Hearing Date: March 6, 2003

Tape Number	Side A	Side B	Meter #
1		X	41.6-52.9
2	X		0.0-1.7
Committee Clerk Signature <i>Mickie Schmidt</i> 3-26-03			

Minutes:

TAPE 1: SIDE B:

(41.6) CHAIRMAN GLEN FROSETH: This is the bill that would allow job development authority to county job development authority to levy one mill for promotion on tourism above the four mill levy limit. We discussed if we should take this bill to the floor as it is, or amend it to allow to go to the appropriate people before it is implemented. Rep. Grosz had an amendment drafted. Will you explain your amendment?

(42.6) REP. MIKE GROSZ: This amendment I'm presenting is exactly the same as Rep. Tieman's with the exception of the first phrase. The first phrase is "Upon approval by a majority of electors voting on the question at a regular or special county election. So instead it goes to the vote of the people in order to get instituted under the system mentioned. Rep. Tieman was favorable with it.

(43.4) REP. BRUCE ECKRE: Did we approve Rep. Tieman's amendment?

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Date

Page 2
House Political Subdivisions Committee
Bill/Resolution Number SB 2173
Hearing Date: March 6, 2003

(43.7) CHAIRMAN GLEN FROSETH: I also visited with Rep. Tieman and he had gotten back to all the concerned people in his home county to see if they were satisfied.

(44.0) REP. BRUCE ECKRE: I'LL MAKE A MOTION TO MOVE THE
AMENDMENT #202

(44.0) REP. GIL HERBEL: I SECOND IT.

(44.3) REP. ALON WIELAND: This is regardless of whether they have reached the four mill limits or not even if they're below that limit that in order to use one of the mills that's within the formula that they now have, they must have a vote.

(44.7) REP. MIKE GROSZ: It is my understanding that if they're using the formula to create job development authority upon that one mill would have to go to the vote of the people, regardless of the court cap.

(45.1) CHAIRMAN GLEN FROSETH: Discussion by the committee? Seeing none, I will take a voice vote on the amendment. 13-y; 1-n; 0-absent; Amendment carries.

(45.6) REP. GIL HERBEL: If one of the counties was levying 3 mills and want to use one more mill. So they're not exceeding the cap for 4. Does that have to be put to the vote of the people?

(46.5) CHAIRMAN GLEN FROSETH: They have a cap at 4 mills for JVA. I don't know how you would ever challenge that that extra mill was not being used for job development when you have a liable first economy in your community like Pembina, in case they are using that money for hiring a tourism promotional director.

(47.9) REP. BRUCE ECKRE: Rep. Tieman mentioned that they were looking at hiring somebody.

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12/17/03
Date

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House Political Subdivisions Committee

Bill/Resolution Number SB 2173

Hearing Date: March 6, 2003

(49.0) CHAIRMAN GLEN FROSETH: What are the committee's wishes?

(49.0) REP. ALON WIELAND: I WOULD MOVE A DO PASS AS AMENDED.

(49.2) REP. BRUCE ECKRE: I SECOND IT.

(49.4) CHAIRMAN GLEN FROSETH: Any discussion?

(49.5) REP. DALE SEVERSON: I'm having a little trouble with this bill. I have faith in County Commission to make the right decision. I'll vote for this.

(50.4) REP. MARY EKSTROM: I too have faith in the County Commission. I will resist this bill.

(51.2) REP. GIL HERBEL: Because of this property taxed issue that I think, admits to most people in rural area's even though it was the fifth mill, it got voted down. The people were well informed. I had trusted most County Commissioners, however, in some cases you can get a group that can control the County Commissioner and we happened to have a situation like that in my county and we spent huge dollars and are in terrible financial trouble right now. If the people would have had a say on some of these issues, it may not have happened.

(52.7) CHAIRMAN GLEN FROSETH: I think the area's and counties that really do have a passion for promoting the tourism. **-(52.9)**

TAPE 2; SIDE A;

(0.0) CHAIRMAN GLEN FROSETH: Any further discussion? Seeing none, I will have the clerk take the Roll Call Vote: 9-y; 3-n; 2-absent; Carrier: Rep. Herbel. **(1.7)**

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Operator's Signature

12/17/03
Date

#2 2-27-03

30261.0201
Title.

Prepared by the Legislative Council staff for
Representative Tiegan
February 26, 2003

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO ENGROSSED SENATE BILL NO. 2173

Page 1, line 1, after "11-11.1-04" Insert "and subsection 29 of section 57-15-06.7"

Page 1, line 2, after "to" Insert "property tax levy authority for"

Page 2, line 18, overstrike "limitation" and Insert immediately thereafter "limitations"

Page 2, after line 29, Insert:

"SECTION 3. AMENDMENT. Subsection 29 of section 57-15-06.7 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

29. A county levying a tax for a job development authority as provided in section 11-11.1-04 or for the support of an industrial development organization as provided in section 11-11.1-06 may levy a tax not exceeding four mills on the taxable valuation of property within the county. A county levying a tax for a job development authority as provided in section 11-11.1-04 or for the support of an industrial development organization as provided in section 11-11.1-06 may levy a separate and additional tax for promotion of tourism in an amount not exceeding one mill on the taxable valuation of property within the county. However, if any city within the county is levying a tax for support of a job development authority or for support of an industrial development organization and the total of the county and city levies exceeds ~~four~~ five mills, the county tax levy within the city levying under subsection 28 of section 57-15-10 must be reduced so the total levy in the city does not exceed ~~four~~ five mills."

Renumber accordingly

Date: 3-6-03

Roll Call Vote #: 3

2003 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES
BILL/RESOLUTION NO. 2173

House "POLITICAL SUBDIVISION" Committee

☐ Check here for Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number 30261.0202 Title: 0300

Action Taken Do Pass As Amended

Motion Made By Rep. Wieland Seconded By Rep. Eckre

Representatives	Yes	No	Representatives	Yes	No
Chairman Glen Froseth	✓				
Vice-Chairman Nancy Johnson	✓				
Mike Grosz		✓			
Gil Herbel	✓				
Ron Iverson	0				
William E. Kretschmar		✓			
Andrew Maragos	0				
Dale Severson	✓				
Alon Wieland	✓				
Bruce Eckre	✓				
Mary Ekstrom		✓			
Carol A. Niemeler	✓				
Sally M. Sandvig	✓				
Vonnie Pietsch	✓				

Total (Yes) 9 No 3

Absent 2

Floor Assignment Rep. Herbel

If the vote is on an amendment, briefly indicate intent:

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Deanna Wallick 10/17/03
Operator's Signature Date

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE (410)
March 6, 2003 2:38 p.m.

Module No: HR-40-4151
Carrier: Herbel
Insert LC: 30261.0202 Title: .0300

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

SB 2173, as engrossed: Political Subdivisions Committee (Rep. Froseth, Chairman)
recommends **AMENDMENTS AS FOLLOWS** and when so amended, recommends
DO PASS (9 YEAS, 3 NAYS, 2 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). Engrossed SB 2173
was placed on the Sixth order on the calendar.

Page 1, line 1, after "11-11.1-04" Insert "and subsection 29 of section 57-15-06.7"

Page 1, line 2, after "to" Insert "property tax levy authority for"

Page 2, line 18, overstrike "limitation" and insert immediately thereafter "limitations"

Page 2, after line 29, insert:

"SECTION 3. AMENDMENT. Subsection 29 of section 57-15-06.7 of the North
Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

29. A county levying a tax for a job development authority as provided in
section 11-11.1-04 or for the support of an industrial development
organization as provided in section 11-11.1-06 may levy a tax not
exceeding four mills on the taxable valuation of property within the county.
Upon approval by a majority of electors voting on the question at a regular
or special county election, a county levying a tax for a job development
authority as provided in section 11-11.1-04 or for the support of an
industrial development organization as provided in section 11-11.1-06 may
levy a separate and additional tax for promotion of tourism in an amount
not exceeding one mill on the taxable valuation of property within the
county. However, if any city within the county is levying a tax for support of
a job development authority or for support of an industrial development
organization and the total of the county and city levies exceeds ~~four~~ five
mills, the county tax levy within the city levying under subsection 28 of
section 57-15-10 must be reduced so the total levy in the city does not
exceed ~~four~~ five mills."

Renumber accordingly

2003 TESTIMONY

SB 2173

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Demetrius J. Hallmark
Operator's Signature

12/17/03
Date

6-27-03

Testimony Before the House Political Subdivisions

SB 2173

February 27, 2003

By Representative Wayne Tieman

For the record, I am Wayne Tieman, representing District 10, which consists of most of Pembina County, all of Cavalier County, and the Northern part of Towner County in the Northeastern corner of North Dakota. All of District 10 is within the Rendezvous Region.

The Rendezvous Region committee was organized about 10 years ago by an energetic group of volunteers from the cities of Cavalier, Langdon, Walhalla, and Pembina. Their primary mission has been to promote the area's image as a tourist destination and to organize festivals and attractions to enhance tourism. The Rendezvous Region Committee, along with help from area Chamber of Commerce's and the historical societies in Cavalier and Pembina Counties, have been very successful over the years. Cavalier has Icelandic State Park four miles west and through their assistance, the Rendezvous Festival in early June and the Pioneer Machinery Show in early September have been wonderful attractions. Langdon has their Rendezvous Region Music Festival in late June. Chubby Checker and Bobby Vee have been recent star attractions to this wonderful festival. Walhalla, the second oldest city in North Dakota, has the annual Fourth of July Celebration along with Frost Fire summer theater and Frost Fire downhill skiing six miles west in the beautiful Pembina Gorge. Pembina, the oldest city in North Dakota, is the site of the Pembina State Museum and organizes the Red River Rodeo in August of each year. The Rendezvous Region has other attractions as well, including the Pembina County Fair in Hamilton in July, snowmobiling, hunting, fishing, and dinosaur digs.

The Rendezvous Region Committee has had fantastic success, but the committee felt it is time to take their efforts one step further. SB 2173 is the result of dialogue with the County Commissioners in both Pembina and Cavalier counties, the JDA's in both counties and all the cities in both counties. All entities have shown solid support of the committee over the years. The Committee believes that it is necessary to have our own Rendezvous Region tourism office with staff to better enable us to secure funding and to coordinate our local efforts with the state. As a group of volunteers, it has become much more difficult to stay current with the promotion needed to keep operating. At present, the Committee has only \$3,000 available for advertising (from donations from the four towns) to advertise the Rendezvous Region.

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Deanne G. Hall
Operator's Signature

10/17/03
Date

Testimony Before the House Political Subdivisions

SB 2173

February 27, 2003

By Representative Wayne Tieman

SB 2173 with an amendment, will allow a one mill levy from each county to be assessed for the establishment and continuation of the RR marketing office. One mill in Pembina County will raise about \$27,000; while one mill in Cavalier County will raise \$18,000. The RR Committee will work with the Job Development Authorities and County Commissions in each county to oversee this new endeavor.

Tourism is North Dakota's second leading industry. From 1990 to 1999, tourism in North Dakota increased over 500 percent. In 1999 alone, tourism generated \$2.62 billion to the state's \$9.46 billion in the primary sector economy. Tourism was second only to Agriculture at \$3.73 billion in 1999. Tourism is a key player in our state's economy and quality of life, and the industry's phenomenal growth is some of the best news we can give to smaller communities as they look to diversify their local economies. I ask for your support on SB 2173.

I thank you for allowing me to introduce SB 2173 I am more than willing to stand for any questions that you may have.

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Deanne Hall
Operator's Signature

10/17/03
Date