



# Revenue and Transportation Interim Committee

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## 57th Montana Legislature

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TO: Potential Interested Persons  
FROM: Senator Bill Glaser  
DATE: March 27, 2002  
RE: Senate Joint Resolution No. 21 study of the taxation of agricultural land

Last October, you received a meeting notice from Leanne Kurtz, Revenue and Transportation Interim Committee (RTIC) staff, informing you that you had been identified from the 2001-2002 list of lobbying organizations who registered with the Montana Commissioner of Political Practices as an individual or organization with possible interest in the above-referenced study.

The Revenue and Transportation Committee invited all recipients of the October memo to bring to the Committee their ideas, thoughts, and suggestions on the problems identified in the study resolution, possible solutions, and potential consequences of those solutions. The Montana Association of Realtors, the Montana Smart Growth Coalition, and the Montana Stockgrowers Association all provided valuable testimony at RTIC's November meeting.

Since then, RTIC has appointed an SJR 21 Subcommittee consisting of Representatives Devlin, Kaufmann, Story, and myself acting as chair. The Subcommittee was organized to allow for more intensive focus on the study and to bring to the full Committee any recommendations for change to the current means of classifying and taxing agricultural property and nonqualified agricultural property.

To this end, the Subcommittee plans to meet on **Thursday, April 11 from 9:30 to 12:00 in Room 102 of the Capitol** building to again hear from any individuals or groups that are interested or that may be directly affected by changes to the way agricultural land and nonqualified agricultural land is taxed in Montana.

Rather than simply receiving formal testimony, the Subcommittee wishes for all participants in the meeting to join the members at the table for a discussion that I will moderate. The Subcommittee members hope that this informal "roundtable" format will be more productive and provide the members with a clear understanding of your concerns and expectations.

Enclosed is a copy of the SJR 21 study resolution. If you plan to participate, please also look to RTIC's website for additional background information. You can access that site through the following URL: [http://leg.mt.gov/Interim\\_Committees/Revenue\\_Transportation/index.htm](http://leg.mt.gov/Interim_Committees/Revenue_Transportation/index.htm). Click on any of the items under the SJR 21 heading. If you do not have access to the Internet, have trouble reaching this website, or have any questions about the Subcommittee meeting, please contact Leanne Kurtz at 444-3064 or via e-mail at [lekurtz@mt.gov](mailto:lekurtz@mt.gov).

I hope to see you on April 11th to discuss this important policy issue.