

Ravalli County Commissioners Office

From: MACO <MACO@mtcounties.org>
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 3:29 PM
To: MACO
Subject: URGENT - DOR meeting to discuss SB 56

Importance: High

Commissioners,

During the 2013 Legislature, the Department of Revenue proposed legislation (SB 56) that would transfer the responsibility for placing " fee-based specials" on the county's property tax bill from DOR to each county. That legislation ultimately failed but in working to kill the bill, MACo agreed to continue the discussion over the interim.

We recently announced that the DOR has created a Local Government Advisory Committee as a venue to discuss issues such as this. That committee met recently and it was determined that a meeting should be held between DOR and both treasurers and commissioners with their software vendors to discuss both the policy question and the technical aspects.

That meeting will be held June 17th in Helena. Please see message below to County Treasurers for more information.

I cannot stress enough that it is vitally important that this meeting be attended by both Treasurers and Commissioners. I would like to encourage you to discuss this with your Treasurers before the meeting.

DOR needs to have an attendance count so I would ask if you plan to attend to let me know and I will let them know how many commissioners will attend.

Thanks,

Harold

L Harold Blattie, Executive Director
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From: Ronda Wiggers [<mailto:rondakwiggers@gmail.com>]
Sent: Tuesday, May 13, 2014 9:23 AM
To: County Treasurers
Cc: hblattie@mtcounties.org
Subject: DOR meeting to discuss SB 56

Good morning,

Cynthia has set up a meeting to discuss SB 56. The goal is that everyone will gather together for DOR to explain why they would like to have the counties assume the responsibility of entering specials. Then we will divide into two rooms, Tyler and Black Mountain, and give you a chance to see what your software provider can offer, ask questions and learn what this change would entail in both workload and cost. DOR is working with them to be prepared to meet with you.

Afterward, we will have some time to talk as a group, without DOR. Then we will end by talking with DOR about how we would prefer to proceed.

I encourage you to bring along your commissioners and anyone from your office that would need to be doing this entry work. It is very important that we fully discuss this and vet all of our ideas and opinions. We cannot afford to again change positions and/or be in opposition with our own commissioners in front of the legislature.

DOR reserved a meeting place at the following:

Red Lion Hotel, Helena
June 17, 2014
1 p.m. – 5 p.m.
1 large room – 75 people
2 small rooms – 30-40 people

She further offered: "I assume all will travel in the morning, but if you would like us to block off some sleeping rooms, please let us know how many. We will also provide some afternoon refreshments."

Please let me know if you will be able to attend.

Thanks,
Ronda