

# MICROFILM DIVIDER

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



ROLL NUMBER
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DESCRIPTION

1246

2001 HOUSE FINANCE AND TAXATION

HB 1246

2001 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

BILL/RESOLUTION NO. HB 1246

House Finance and Taxation Committee

Conference Committee

Hearing Date February 5, 2001

Tape Number	Side A	Side B	Meter #
1		X	3,637
Committee Clerk Signature <i>Janice Stein</i>			

Minutes:

**REP. AL CARLSON, CHAIRMAN**, Opened the hearing and read the fiscal note.

**REP. ARLO SCHMIDT, DIST. 12**, Introduced the bill as the prime sponsor. See attached written testimony.

**DUANE ERICKSON, CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNTY COMMISSIONERS**, Testified in support of the bill. Submitted a handout prepared by Elder Dougherty who was unable to attend the hearing. See attached handout.

**REP. CARLSON** As a county commissioner, you could have lowered your mill levy, did you do that?

**DUANE ERICKSON**, No, we raised them because we have one hundred miles of pavement, we have one hundred twenty thousand to keep and repair that, we have twenty miles that are good and eighty miles that are bad, we have used up all of our money we get from DOT until 2004, because we have patched roads that were under water.

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House Finance and Taxation Committee

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**REP. CARLSON** You used up your share of the gas tax which comes to the county?

**DUANE ERICKSON** No, the amount that comes under the ICET program under the federal government.

**REP. CARLSON** Would you agree that it is a function of the county government, no matter what the evaluation is, to deal with the mill levies and services for the people in the county?

**DUANE ERICKSON** Yes

**REP. SCHMIDT** Reminded the committee that in 1999, this committee did that very thing. We put the cost production in this formula, they are using that. He read a letter from Barry Hasti directed to the Division of Tax Equalization, regarding the capitalization rate.

**CHUCK KRUEGER, STATE SUPERVISOR OF ASSESSMENTS IN THE OFFICE OF THE STATE TAX COMMISSIONER,** Appeared to answer questions the committee might have.

**REP. CARLSON** What happens when you lock a rate in here, 9.5% and may not be more than 10.5%, what does that do to the entire picture, and have we in the past, locked a rate in there like that?

**CHUCK KRUEGER** Submitted a handout regarding the capitalization rate since 1987, this showed the ag valuation history of cap rates from 1987 through 2000. See attached copy.

**ARVID WINKLER, FARMER AND TOWNSHIP ASSESSOR IN BARNES COUNTY,** Testified in opposition of the bill. See attached written testimony. Also suggested that the effective date should be changed to 2001.

**LEON SAMUEL, TAX DIRECTOR OF MORTON COUNTY,** Testified to clarify some things. I heard that ag values went up and so our taxes went up. If you are totally agricultural in

a county, and last year your budget was one million dollars, and you had an agricultural value of X amount of dollars, and the state said you needed the increase by ten percent, so you increased your agricultural values by ten percent, the following year, if you had no residential, no growth, you would have to lower your mill reads in order to come up with one million dollars. You are not allowed to take any more dollars, because your agricultural value went up. Just because the valuation went up on agricultural land, doesn't mean taxes will go up.

**REP. CARLSON** Don't we address that growth rate in every session?

**LEON SAMUEL**, I think two sessions ago, it was zero growth.

**REP. CARLSON** Then why is everyone coming in here and saying their land is taxed at a higher value today than yesterday, if what you said is true?

**LEON SAMUEL** Basically, because the values have gone up and their taxes have gone up because they have allowed new mills from some other source, because of a school district or whatever. Some other taxing district would increase their mills. If the ag value would go down, there would be a shift to commercial and residential, they would pick up the mill and their taxes would go up a little bit.

**REP. CARLSON** You are saying that the cap only applies to the ag land?

**LEON SAMUEL** It only applies to the ag land.

**REP. RENNER** If the county commission is running on this million dollar last year, can they raise that?

**LEON SAMUEL** My understanding is, if there are new mills that have been allowed you, or you are not at your mill levy limitation, you would have to stay within your budget.

With no further testimony, the hearing was closed.

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House Finance and Taxation Committee  
Bill/Resolution Number HB 1246  
Hearing Date February 5, 2001

**COMMITTEE ACTION 2-06-01, TAPE #1, SIDE B, METER #5800**

**REP. SCHMIDT** Made a motion to amend the bill by changing the effective date to December 31, 2001, on page 4, line 24. He also wanted to amend the bill by using a 9.25 % interest rate on page 2, line 31.

**REP. WINRICH** Second the motion. **MOTION CARRIED BY VOICE VOTE.**

**REP. GROSZ** Made a motion for a **DO NOT PASS AS AMENDED.**

**REP. BRANDENBURG** Second the motion. **MOTION CARRIED.**

**11 YES      3 NO      1 ABSENT**

**REP. RENNER** Was given the floor assignment.

**FISCAL NOTE**  
 Requested by Legislative Council  
 01/15/2001

Bill/Resolution No.: HB 1246

Amendment to:

**1A. State fiscal effect:** *Identify the state fiscal effect and the fiscal effect on agency appropriations compared to funding levels and appropriations anticipated under current law.*

	1999-2001 Biennium		2001-2003 Biennium		2003-2005 Biennium	
	General Fund	Other Funds	General Fund	Other Funds	General Fund	Other Funds
<b>Revenues</b>						
<b>Expenditures</b>						
<b>Appropriations</b>						

**1B. County, city, and school district fiscal effect:** *Identify the fiscal effect on the appropriate political subdivision.*

1999-2001 Biennium			2001-2003 Biennium			2003-2005 Biennium		
Counties	Cities	School Districts	Counties	Cities	School Districts	Counties	Cities	School Districts

**2. Narrative:** *Identify the aspects of the measure which cause fiscal impact and include any comments relevant to your analysis.*

HB 1246, if enacted, will establish a limited capitalization rate used for valuation of agricultural property. While HB 1246 could decrease the value of agricultural taxable property of cities, counties, and school districts, it does not require a decrease in property taxes. Any change in property tax revenue will be the result of county, city, or school district decisions as to the level at which government services will be funded, and not as a result of the passage of HB 1246. This bill alone causes no fiscal effect to the counties, cities, or school districts. There will be an indeterminable decrease in the property tax revenue for the one-mill state medical center levy.

**3. State fiscal effect detail:** *For information shown under state fiscal effect in 1A, please:*

**A. Revenues:** *Explain the revenue amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, for each revenue type and fund affected and any amounts included in the executive budget.*

**B. Expenditures:** *Explain the expenditure amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, for each agency, line item, and fund affected and the number of FTE positions affected.*

**C. Appropriations:** *Explain the appropriation amounts. Provide detail, when appropriate, of the effect on the biennial appropriation for each agency and fund affected and any amounts included in the executive budget. Indicate the relationship between the amounts shown for expenditures and appropriations.*

<b>Name:</b>	Kathryn L. Strombeck	<b>Agency:</b>	Tax Department
<b>Phone Number:</b>	328-3402	<b>Date Prepared:</b>	01/24/2001



Date: 2-6-01  
 Roll Call Vote #: 1

2001 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE ROLL CALL VOTES  
 BILL/RESOLUTION NO. HB 1246

House FINANCE & TAXATION Committee

Subcommittee on \_\_\_\_\_

or

Conference Committee

Legislative Council Amendment Number \_\_\_\_\_

Action Taken Do Not Pass as Amended

Motion Made By Rep. Grosz Seconded By Rep. Brandenburg

Representatives	Yes	No	Representatives	Yes	No
CARLSON, AL, CHAIRMAN	✓		NICHOLAS, EUGENE	✓	
DROVDAL, DAVID, V-CHAIR	✓		RENNER, DENNIS	✓	
BRANDENBURG, MICHAEL	✓		RENNERFELDT, EARL	✓	
CLARK, BYRON	✓		SCHMIDT, ARLO		✓
GROSZ, MICHAEL	✓		WIKENHEISER, RAY	✓	
HERBEL, GIL	✓		WINRICH, LONNY		✓
KELSH, SCOT		✓			
KROEBER, JOE	✓				
LLOYD, EDWARD	✓				

Total (Yes) 11 No 3

Absent 1

Floor Assignment Rep. Renner

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

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE (410)  
February 9, 2001 12:22 p.m.

Module No: HR-24-2862  
Carrier: Renner  
Insert LC: 10324.0101 Title: .0200

**REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE**

HB 1246: Finance and Taxation Committee (Rep. Carlson, Chairman) recommends **AMENDMENTS AS FOLLOWS** and when so amended, recommends **DO NOT PASS** (11 YEAS, 3 NAYS, 1 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). HB 1246 was placed on the Sixth order on the calendar.

Page 2, line 31, replace "five-tenths" with "twenty-five hundredths"

Page 4, line 24, replace "2000" with "2001"

Renumber accordingly

2001 TESTIMONY

HB 1246

**FINANCE AND TAX COMMITTEE**  
**TESTIMONY PREPARED BY REPRESENTATIVE ARLO SCHMIDT**  
**HOUSE BILL 1246**

Chairman Carlson, Members of The Finance and Tax Committee, for the record, my name is Arlo Schmidt, State Representative from District 12.

House Bill 1246 is a bill that will keep agriculture land values from going up. This bill is dealing with the number one industry in North Dakota. We all know what has happened to this industry. While the income has declined for this struggling sector of our economy, the value of this land has increased. This bill is not asking for a decrease in these land values, this bill would simply ask that these land values *not* increase. Without this bill, land values **will** increase again next year. We are responsible for the formula used to calculate land values in North Dakota. This formula is good, and was working until the farm crisis hit in 1995. This bill does not change the formula, except the capitalization rate. Testimony will show that without this change, land values will rise.

This committee has done an excellent job over the years, to adjust and give some tax exemptions will help to stimulate the economy. This bill is not asking for any exemptions, or even a decrease, is it only asking *not* to increase. We should ask for no less than this for our number one industry in this state. An industry that contributes more to our general fund revenue than any other, an industry that is suffering and is asking for your help. The agriculture land owners are asking for consideration and passage of House Bill 1246.

I will be open to questions, if you like. We do have people to testify further as to the formula, and I would like to have you hear from them. Thank you for this opportunity to allow me to present this bill to this outstanding committee.

CAPITALIZATION RATE

HB 1246  
Duane Erickson

1999	9.18
1998	9.45
1997	9.78
1996	10.14
1995	10.47
1994	10.76
1993	11.11

<u>1996</u>	
1985 -	12.44 Out high
1986 -	12.01
1987 -	10.85
1988 -	10.95
1989 -	11.58
1990 -	11.25
1991 -	10.69
1992 -	8.19
1993 -	7.38 Out low
1994 -	8.98
1995 -	8.55
1996 -	8.36
Cap Rate	10.14

<u>1997</u>	
1986 -	12.01 Out high
1987 -	10.85
1988 -	10.95
1989 -	11.58
1990 -	11.25
1991 -	10.69
1992 -	8.19
1993 -	7.38 Out low
1994 -	8.98
1995 -	8.55
1996 -	8.36
1997 -	8.40
Cap Rate	9.78

<u>1998</u>	
1987 -	10.85
1988 -	10.95
1989 -	11.58 Out
1990 -	11.25
1991 -	10.69
1992 -	8.19
1993 -	7.38 Out
1994 -	8.98
1995 -	8.55
1996 -	8.36
1997 -	8.40
1998 -	8.36
Cap Rate	9.45

<u>1999</u>	
1989 -	10.95
1990 -	11.58 Out high
1991 -	11.25
1992 -	10.69
1993 -	8.19
1994 -	7.38 Out low
1995 -	8.98
1996 -	8.55
1997 -	8.36
1998 -	8.40
1999 -	8.36
2000 -	8.10
Cap Rate	9.18

<u>2000</u>	
1989 -	11.58 Out high
1990 -	11.25
1991 -	10.69
1992 -	8.19
1993 -	7.38 Out low
1994 -	8.98
1995 -	8.55
1996 -	8.36
1997 -	8.40
1998 -	8.36
1999 -	8.36
2000 -	8.10
2001 -	8.20 Estimate
Cap Rate	8.90

<u>2001</u>	
1990 -	11.25-OU
1991 -	10.69
1992 -	8.19
1993 -	7.38-OU
1994 -	8.98
1995 -	8.55
1996 -	8.36
1997 -	8.40
1998 -	8.36
1999 -	8.10
2000 -	8.20 Es
2001 -	8.20 "
Cap Rate	8.60

Foster County Ag land value has been raised 27% since 1992.  
2000-2001-2002 Ag land value will be raised another 8 or 9%,  
if the Legislature doesn't stop this capitalization rate from  
going lower.

