

## FEE CHANGES

The 2005 Legislature enacted changes to fees (increases or decreases) and created new fees that will raise an estimated net \$61.5 million in the 2007 biennium. Of that amount, \$37.4 million is reflected in appropriations in the general appropriations act (HB 2). The increased fee revenue, which will mostly be deposited in accounts other than the general fund, will be used to fund new and existing agency programs. Figure 29 lists 40 bills that contain fee increases. In addition, there are three instances of fee changes being a result of the level of spending authority authorized in the HB 2. Legislation is included on this list if there is: 1) a fee increase, 2) a fee decrease, 3) new fees imposed, or 4) a new group of fee payers. Not included on the list are university system tuition hikes that are certain to occur (based upon recent Board of Regents decisions) during the 2007 biennium. While this list may not be complete because of the difficulty of sometimes defining what is a "fee", it is a representative list of fee bills.

Figure 29				
Increased or Decreased Revenues from New or Changed Fees				
2007 Biennium				
Bill #	Description	Estimated Revenue Biennial Impact	New or Revised (N or R)	Amount in HB 2
<u>New Fee or Revised Fee as Result of Statutory Change</u>				
HB 22	Water adjudication fees	\$6,200,000	N	\$4,816,580
HB 34	Revises turkey tag laws	108,420	R	
HB 35	Highway patrol officer salaries/retention - vehicle registration fee increase	9,940,725	R	
HB 55	Permanent registration of trailer and semitrailer fleet	-	R	10,000
HB 60	Cleanup of indoor meth labs - fee for training/certification	15,000	N	15,000
HB 71	Revise license fees on certain mortgage brokers	(30,000)	R	
HB 77	Increase septic pumper fees	54,250	R	
HB 140	Revise laws on consumer credit counseling	5,000	N	
HB 160	Revise building code administration	100,750	R	
HB 172	Revise certain hunting and fishing licenses	4,146,734	R	
HB 174	Establish private pond fees	25,830	N	
HB 203	Clarify responsibility of boards and DLI - increases sanitarian fee	9,500	R	
HB 214	Creation of non-resident youth big game license	187,500	N	
HB 235	Creation of lottery draw program and fees for specific hunting tags	746,232	N	746,232
HB 272	Half-priced hunting licenses to disabled veterans	5,830	N	
HB 274	Agricultural feed laws to increase licensing and registration fees	196,250	R	
HB 370	Revise strip and underground mining fees	(500)	R	(600)
HB 421	Hunting/fishing licenses for non resident child of resident	(26,946)	N	
HB 470	Applicants to pay for certain environmental impact statements	250,000	N	250,000
HB 476	Increase marriage license fee to fund domestic violence intervention program	186,966	R	186,966
HB 536	Generally revise court automation surcharge	3,210,672	R	3,210,672
HB 541	Revise registration of certain motor homes	71,234	R	4,180
HB 584	Promote growth of film and other media in Montana	35,170	N	
HB 628	Registration for certain alternative schools and programs	44,000	N	42,650
HB 671	Generally revising motor vehicle laws	3,608,650	R	787,500
HB 749	Revise nursing home bed tax	9,561,395	R	
HB 802	Eliminate annual permit surcharge fee for video gambling machines	(530,344)	R	
SB 82	Revise definition or and utilization fee on ICF/DD	476,236	R	
SB 98	Montana land information act	2,100,000	R	2,100,000
SB 120	Extend hospital tax on inpatient bed days	25,570,394	R	24,675,892
SB 137	License tattoo and body piercing businesses	34,750	N	34,750
SB 208	Increase conviction charge to fund victim services	34,178	R	
SB 275	Revising voluntary genetics program: increasing program fee	499,676	R	
SB 282	Student fee to attend course on racial profiling	11,520	N	22,520
SB 320	Revise concentrated animal feeding operation permit fees	(81,000)	R	
SB 339	Low cost hunting permits for active military personnel	(27,709)	N	
SB 406	Fund civil legal assistance for indigent victims of domestic violence	54,900	R	54,900
SB 412	Regulation or elevator contractors, mechanics, and inspectors	99,840	N	85,390
SB 442	Repeal POINTS replacement fee	(5,768,172)	R	
SB 486	Revise viatical settlement law	20,000	N	
	Sub-total	\$61,146,931		\$37,042,632
<u>Fee Change as Result of Appropriation in HB 2</u>				
	Increase fire protection taxes to \$0.20/acre	\$74,578	R	\$74,578
	Annual adjustment to air quality fees	\$139,527	R	\$139,527
	Military Affairs Shared usage fees for Distance Learning Program	125,000		125,000
	Sub-total	\$339,105		\$339,105
	Total	\$61,486,036		\$37,381,737

## FEE CHANGES

The 2007 Legislature enacted changes to fees (increases or decreases) and created new fees that will raise an estimated net \$25.1 million in the 2009 biennium. This compares to \$61.5 million in fee increases in the 2007 biennium. The increased fee revenue, which will mostly be deposited in accounts other than the general fund, will be used to fund new and existing agency programs and services. Figure 25 lists 14 instances of fee increases. Some are instances of fee changes being a result of the level of spending authority authorized in the HB 2. Items are included on this list if there is: 1) a fee increase, 2) a fee decrease, 3) new fees imposed, or 4) a new group of fee payers. Not included on the list is university system tuition, although tuition increases are not necessarily expected during the 2009 biennium. While this list may not be complete because of the difficulty of sometimes defining what is a "fee", it is a representative list of fee bills.

Figure 25  
New Fees or Charges  
2009 Biennium

Section/Agency	Source/Purpose	Biennial Total
General Government and Transportation		
Dept. of Administration	Wireless enhanced 9-1-1 fee [HB 27]	\$15,151,103
Dept. of Administration	License fee for Montana deferred deposit lenders (fee increase) [SB 165]	158,374
Dept. of Administration	License fee for Montana consumer lenders (fee increase) [HB 141]	290,500
Dept. of Administration	License fee for residential mortgage lenders [HB 69]	1,156,800
Public Health and Human Services		
Public Health and Safety Division	License fee for genetics program - retained \$1 per policy set to sunset 7/1/2007 [HB 278]	567,620
Natural Resources & Commerce		
Dept. of Natural Resources	Increase in fire protection fees [SB 145]	1,624,796
Fish, Wildlife, and Parks	Expansion of warm water fish stamp [SB 314]	27,972
Fish, Wildlife, and Parks	Wolf and grizzly license and lottery [SB 372]	1,700,000
Fish, Wildlife, and Parks	Increase snowmobile fees for out-of-staters [HB 348]	210,000
Dept. of Environmental Quality	Increase in air permitting fees [HB 2]	2,100,000
Dept. of Livestock	Diagnostic Laboratory [HB 2]	710,000
Corrections & Public Safety		
Dept. of Justice	Additional e-government applications [HB 2]	1,050,000
Dept. of Justice	Increased Debt for MERLIN [HB 2]	(a)
Dept. of Labor and Industry	Weighing Device Licensing Fee [HB 99]	308,996
Total		<u>\$25,056,161</u>

Note: (a) Applicable fees are extended and impact does not occur in 2009 biennium but rather in out years.