

HB 1161 -- COUNTY ORDINANCES

SPONSOR: Smith (118)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass" by the Committee on Local Government by a vote of 15 to 1 with 1 present.

This bill authorizes all counties without a charter form of government to adopt ordinances or resolutions related to its property, affairs, and local government. The bill limits the types of ordinances that may be passed. Ordinances may be submitted to the voters for approval. No county may pass an ordinance which will submit a tax to the voters without authorization by the General Assembly or pass an ordinance that governs any railroad, telecommunications or wireless company, public utility, electric cooperative, or municipal utility. Under current law, only counties of the first, second, or fourth classification may adopt ordinances related to their property, affairs, and local government.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2005, FY 2006, and FY 2007.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that the bill is a step toward greater autonomy for third classification counties.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Smith (118); County Commissioners Association of Missouri; and Missouri Association of Counties.

OPPOSERS: Those who oppose the bill say that allowing the initiative petition process would be too costly for third classification counties.

Testifying against the bill were Howell County Commission; and Oregon County Commission.

Julie Jinkens McNitt, Legislative Analyst