

CCS SCS HCS HB 1965 -- STATE GOVERNMENT

This bill repeals various expired provisions of law; changes the laws regarding the publishing of state laws and resolutions, the publication of the Official Manual of the State of Missouri, and the criteria to qualify for certain state programs; and establishes the Joint Committee on Missouri's Promise and the Joint Subcommittee on Recovery Accountability and Transparency.

REPEAL OF EXPIRED STATUTES

The bill repeals various expired provisions in the Revised Statutes of Missouri as identified in the January 2010 Annual Report of the Joint Committee on Legislative Research on Laws Which Expire, Sunset, Terminate, or Become Ineffective.

CERTAIN OFFICIAL STATE PUBLICATIONS

The Joint Committee on Legislative Research is authorized to print or produce all state laws and resolutions in a web-based electronic format. A printed copy may be made available at a price determined by the joint committee. The Official Manual of the State of Missouri, commonly known as the Blue Book, will be made available only in an electronic format accessible on the Secretary of State's web site. The current distribution requirements for the state laws and resolutions and the official manual are repealed.

JOINT COMMITTEE ON MISSOURI'S PROMISE

The Joint Committee on Missouri's Promise is established consisting of 10 legislative members with five appointed by the President Pro Tem of the Senate and five by the Speaker of the House of Representatives. No more than three members of the House of Representatives nor three members of the Senate may be from the same political party. A majority of the committee will constitute a quorum, but the concurrence of a majority will be required for the determination of any matter within the duties of the committee. Members of the committee will not receive compensation but may be reimbursed for reasonable and necessary expenses associated with their official committee duties. The committee must examine issues impacting the future of Missouri and its citizens; develop long-term strategies and plans for increasing the economic prosperity and opportunities for Missouri citizens, improving the health status of Missourians, developing an education system that educates students and prepares them for global competition, and other areas that are vital to improving the lives of Missourians; develop three-, five-, and 10-year plans for the General Assembly to meet the specified long-term strategies; implement budget forecasting; and determine the

proper course of future legislative and budgetary actions on these issues. By January 1, 2011, and each year thereafter, the committee must issue a report to the General Assembly regarding any findings or recommendations.

JOINT SUBCOMMITTEE ON RECOVERY ACCOUNTABILITY AND TRANSPARENCY

The Joint Subcommittee on Recovery Accountability and Transparency is established within the Joint Committee on Legislative Research to coordinate and conduct oversight to prevent waste, fraud, and abuse of funds received from the federal American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, commonly known as the federal economic stimulus act. The subcommittee will be composed of four members of the House of Representatives and four members of the Senate. Procedural requirements for holding hearings are specified in the bill. The subcommittee's powers and duties include the review of contracts, grant management, job creation, and state agency and departmental spending practices. The subcommittee must submit an annual report to the Governor and General Assembly of its findings. All submitted reports must be publicly available on the web site of the Governor, the General Assembly, and each state agency. A state agency must report to the Governor and General Assembly within 30 days of the receipt of a recommendation from the subcommittee. These provisions expire March 1, 2013.

CRITERIA TO QUALIFY FOR CERTAIN STATE PROGRAMS

Currently, several state programs require an area to meet specific income, population, and unemployment thresholds based on the last decennial census in order to qualify for certain state programs. The bill requires that these thresholds be based on the most recent estimate from the United States Census Bureau's American Community Survey. This estimate must encompass a five-year period, the last year of which must end in either 0 or 5. This criteria will apply to:

- (1) The Missouri Downtown and Rural Economic Stimulus Act (Section 99.918, RSMo);
- (2) The Downtown Revitalization Preservation Program (Section 99.1082);
- (3) An enhanced enterprise zone (Sections 135.205, 135.207, and 135.230);
- (4) Tax credits for investment in or relocating a business to a distressed community (Section 135.530);
- (5) A rural empowerment zone (Sections 135.903 and 135.953);

(6) Affordable housing (Section 215.263); and

(7) The Business Extension Service Team Fund (Section 620.1023).

The repeal and re-enactment of the provisions regarding the criteria to qualify for certain state programs become effective April 1, 2011, or when the data becomes available, whichever occurs first.