

HB 1956 with HCA 1 -- GEOGRAPHIC RECORDS

SPONSOR: Dohrman

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with Amendments" by the Standing Committee on Emerging Issues by a vote of 8 to 1.

This bill allows a computer-assisted mass appraisal (CAMA) system to be used by a county assessor, except in charter counties, to assist in the performance of his or her duties and in estimating property value. The bill also allows the county assessor or communities to restrict access to geographic information associated with a CAMA system and specifies that raw data used in a CAMA system is a public record, but that use of the computer system may require a license agreement between the county assessor and the party requesting data. Fees for routine data collection by specified entities including title collectors, real estate brokers, banks, news organizations, mortgage companies, and appraisers are limited to those in Section 610.026, RSMo.

HCA #1: This amendment removes the provision of the bill preventing an individual or business entity from accessing the data gathered in a method by which the individual or business entity would derive a special benefit.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that this bill is about reducing the abuse of public records. The bill prevents individuals or business entities from accessing personal information such as phone numbers or emails of county residents. The use of CAMA systems would help counties better access and utilize property value information. The use of CAMA systems would not change the current process beyond streamlining data entry and access.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Dohrman; Wendy Nordell; Missouri Association Of Realtors; and the Missouri Appraisers Advisory Council.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

OTHERS: Others testifying on the bill say that they are not in opposition to the bill as it is currently written.

Testifying on the bill was the Missouri Land Title Association.