

HCS SCS SB 794 -- TAXATION

SPONSOR: Wallingford (Koenig)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with Amendments" by the Standing Committee on Ways and Means by a vote of 11 to 0. Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Select Committee on Financial Institutions and Taxation by a vote of 8 to 0.

NUISANCE ABATEMENT ORDINANCES IN SPRINGFIELD (Section 67.410, RSMo)

This bill allows the City of Springfield to put certain provisions in the city's nuisance ordinances. Currently, such nuisance ordinances must provide notice to the property owner or occupant by personal service or certified mail of a nuisance action. This bill allows for notice by mail so long as a signature from the recipient is required for delivery. Current law provides that if service cannot be had by personal service or mail, then service may be had by publication. The bill replaces service by publication with service by posting.

Currently, upon failure to commence work within a specified period of a time, a building commissioner must call a hearing to determine if a building is a nuisance. The bill allows a building commissioner in Springfield to call a hearing to determine if the building is a nuisance by giving the affected parties 10 days notice of a hearing, except in emergencies.

Currently, certain orders regarding nuisance properties issued by the building commissioner are required to be certified by the city clerk or officer in charge of finance. The bill allows the building commissioner or other officer to certify such orders in Springfield.

Springfield may add the costs it incurs in demolishing, repairing, securing, or cleaning the property to the annual real estate tax bill for the property, and will be collected in the same manner as real estate taxes are collected. If the costs are not paid, the tax bill may be considered delinquent and collected in accordance with the laws governing delinquent and back taxes.

TAX EXEMPTION FOR MEDICAL EQUIPMENT (Section 144.030)

This bill authorizes a state and local sales and use tax exemption for all sales, rentals, parts, and repairs of durable medical equipment and prosthetic devices, parts for certain types of health care related equipment and class III medical devices that use electric fields for treatment.

SALES TAX BONDING REQUIREMENTS (Section 144.087)

This bill changes the amount of bonding required for a retail sales tax license with the Department of Revenue from three times to two times the license' average monthly tax liability, and changes the bond term from two years to one year.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that the bill clarifies the tax exemption for durable medical equipment to include parts and repairs. The nuisance abatement language is needed to get properties cleaned up because Springfield has property owners who live out of area.

Testifying for the bill were Senator Wallingford; Associated Industries of Missouri; Missouri Retailers Association; and the City of Springfield.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.