

HCS SB 145 -- POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS

SPONSOR: Dempsey (Gatschenberger)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass by consent" by the Committee on Local Government by a vote of 14 to 0. Voted "do pass - not consent" by the Committee on Rules.

This substitute changes the laws regarding political subdivisions and the duties of certain county officials. In its main provisions, the substitute:

(1) Increases from \$250 to \$1,000 the minimum original value of county property that must be inventoried annually by the auditor in a charter county;

(2) Removes the provision prohibiting the assessment of a \$4 criminal case surcharge against a person who has pled guilty and paid his or her fine through the central violations bureau for violation of a county ordinance and any criminal or traffic law including infractions for deposit into the Missouri Prosecuting Attorneys and Circuit Attorneys' Retirement System Fund;

(3) Authorizes any city, town, village, sewer district, or water supply district to impose, upon voter approval, a fee of up to \$1 per month or \$12 annually for each line providing water service to a residential property having four or fewer dwelling units for the purpose of repair or replacement due to failure of the water lines extending from the water main to the residential dwelling. The fee may be added to the general tax levy bill of the property owner and collected in the same manner as delinquent real estate taxes and tax bills;

(4) Allows a public administrator to request the transfer of any case to the jurisdiction of another county by filing a petition for transfer and requires the court to transfer the case if the requirements for venue are met and the administrator of the receiving county consents to the transfer. The receiving county court must appoint, without the necessity of a hearing, its public administrator as successor guardian and/or successor conservator and issue the appropriate letters. In the case of a conservatorship, the final settlement of the public administrator's conservatorship must be filed in the original county within 30 days and forwarded to the receiving county upon audit and approval; and

(5) Authorizes any city, town, village, sewer district, or water supply district to impose, upon voter approval, a fee of up to \$4 per month or \$48 annually for each lateral sewer service line providing sewer service to a residential property having four or

fewer dwelling units for the purpose of repair or replacement due to failure of the lateral sewer service lines extending from the residential dwelling to its connection with the public sewer system. The fee may be added to the general tax levy bill of the property owner and collected in the same manner as delinquent real estate taxes and tax bills.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2012, FY 2013, and FY 2014.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that it has been more than 20 years since the dollar amount of county property that the auditor in charter counties is required to inventory has been adjusted and the change will save these counties money.

Testifying for the bill was Senator Dempsey.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.