

HCS HB 1154 -- POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS

SPONSOR: Hinson

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with Amendments" by the Standing Committee on Local Government by a vote of 10 to 1. Voted "Do Pass" by the Select Committee on State and Local Governments by a vote of 9 to 0.

This bill makes changes to the laws regarding political subdivisions. In its main provisions, the bill:

(1) Changes the amount of fees a county collector must collect for collecting local taxes. In counties where the total amount levied in a year is between \$350,000 and \$2 million, the fee is 2.5% on the first \$350,000 collected and 1% on any amount over that amount. In counties where the total amount levied exceeds \$2 million, the fee is 1% on all amounts collected. The bill raises the outer threshold amount for a county to be eligible to collect the 2.5% on the first \$350,000 to \$3 million;

(2) Removes an intersectional reference to a section that was repealed in 1977 in Section 67.010, RSMo, requiring certain political subdivisions to prepare an annual budget;

(3) Removes, in Section 67.145, an intersectional reference to a section that was repealed in 2014 defining "first responder";

(4) Adds the City of Archie and the City of Winnebago Falls to the list of cities and counties that may impose, upon voter approval, a transient guest tax of between 2% and 5% per occupied room per night for the promotion of tourism;

(5) Authorizes Greene County or any city within the county to impose, upon voter approval, a sales tax not to exceed .25% on all retail sales within the county or city for the purpose of funding early childhood education. Any tax imposed under these provisions must be submitted to the voters of the taxing jurisdiction for retention or repeal every five years using the same procedure by which the imposition of the tax was voted;

(6) Provides that holders of an occupational license issued by the Missouri Gaming Commission are exempt from the police commissioner of Kansas City's regulation powers over private security personnel;

(7) Removes the expiration date for the part of the public mass transportation sales tax imposed by the City of Kansas City in excess of 7.5% which expires on December 31, 2015;

(8) Authorizes the cities of Liberty and North Kansas City to impose, upon voter approval, a sales tax of up to .5% solely for the purpose of improving the public safety of the city, including expenditures on equipment, salaries and benefits, and facilities for police, fire, and emergency medical providers;

(9) Specifies that the levy rate for certain local government general obligation bond issues must be set at the rate needed to meet the bond payment obligation and may be adjusted solely to meet that obligation. The levy rate set by a drainage or levee district for the payment of bonds must be set at a rate determined by the boards of supervisors;

(10) Prohibits an ambulance or fire protection district board member from being eligible for employment by the board upon which he or she served within 12 months of termination of service as a board member, except for employment on a volunteer basis or without compensation;

(11) Sets the candidate filing fee for a fire protection district board seat at the amount equal to the filing fee for a candidate for county office, which currently is \$50;

(12) Establishes a dissolution procedure for special districts that is based upon the existing dissolution procedure for public water supply districts and establishes a detachment procedure for common sewer districts, reorganized common sewer districts, county sewer districts, sewer districts in counties of the second classification, and consolidated sewer districts in Jefferson County that is based upon the existing detachment procedure for public water supply districts; and

(13) Currently, limited liability companies in Kansas City that own or rent real property or own unoccupied property within the city are required to file an affidavit with the city clerk specifying the name and address of a person with management control or responsibility for the real property. This bill clarifies that it must be a street address and must be a natural person. The limited liability company must file a successor affidavit within 30 days of a change in the natural person with management control or responsibility for the real property. The city cannot charge a fee for the filing of the affidavit or successor affidavit. If a limited liability company fails or refuses to file the affidavit, any person adversely affected by the failure or refusal, or the city, may petition the circuit court in the county where the property is located to direct the completion and filing of the affidavit.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that the bill cleans up the statutes.

Testifying for the bill was Representative Hinson.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.