

HCS HB 394 -- PUBLIC SAFETY SALES TAX

SPONSOR: Reedy

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Standing Committee on Local Government by a vote of 12 to 0. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules- Administrative Oversight by a vote of 11 to 1.

The following is a summary of the House Committee Substitute for HB 394.

This bill authorizes certain cities, upon voter approval, to impose a sales tax of up to 0.5% on all retail sales made in such cities, for the purpose of improving the public safety of each city, including but not limited to expenditures on equipment, city employee salaries and benefits, and facilities for police, fire and emergency medical providers (Section 94.900, RSMo).

If enacted, the new provision would initially only apply to the City of Hallsville.

The bill also authorizes certain cities, upon voter approval, to impose a sales tax of up to 0.5% on all retail sales made in such cities for the public safety of each city, including but not limited to expenditures on equipment, city employee salaries and benefits, and facilities for police, fire and emergency medical providers (Section 94.902).

If enacted, the new provisions would initially only apply to the cities of Clinton, Cole Camp, Lincoln, Warrensburg, and Branson West.

The following is a summary of the public testimony from the committee hearing. The testimony was based on the introduced version of the bill.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that some cities cannot afford to hire and keep law enforcement officers and regular staff. This bill would let the voters decide if that is important to them.

Testifying for the bill was Representative Reedy.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.