

HCS HBs 876, 771, 676 & 551 -- PUBLIC SAFETY SALES TAXES

SPONSOR: Hurlbert

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Standing Committee on Local Government by a vote of 11 to 0. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules- Administrative Oversight by a vote of 6 to 1.

The following is a summary of the House Committee Substitute for HB 876.

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

Cities enacting this tax are prohibited from reducing the public safety budget of the city by the tax revenue amount.

Upon enactment, this applies to the cities of Smithville, Odessa, and Marshall.

The bill also adds certain cities to the list of cities in Section 94.902 authorized to impose, upon voter approval, a sales tax in the amount of up to 0.5% on all retail sales for the purpose of improving public safety, including but not limited to expenditures on equipment, city employee salaries and benefits, and facilities for police, fire, and emergency medical providers.

Upon enactment, this applies to the cities of Lincoln, Cole Camp, Branson West, and Clinton.

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 this public safety sales tax would be very helpful for the city.

Testifying in person for the bill was Representative Hurlbert.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.