

HS HCS HB 517, 94, 149, 150 & 342 -- ASSISTANCE FOR THE ELDERLY  
(Portwood)

This substitute:

(1) Limits to 5% the annual increase in the assessed valuation on any residence used as a homestead for taxpayers aged 65 years and older and freezes the assessed valuation on any residence used as a homestead for taxpayers who are aged 65 years and older and permanently and totally disabled or caring for someone of any age who is permanently and totally disabled. There is an enrollment fee of \$15, payable to the local assessment fund each assessment cycle;

(2) Requires the state, through appropriations, to reimburse the losses of any political subdivision caused by the homestead exemption; and

(3) Lowers the rebate for generic drugs for pharmaceutical manufacturers participating in the Missouri Senior Rx Program from 15% to 11% for drugs sold after July 1, 2003;

The substitute contains an emergency clause pertaining to the rebate for generic drugs.

FISCAL NOTE: Estimated Net Cost to General Revenue Fund of \$0 in FY 2004, \$0 in FY 2005, and Unknown in FY 2006. Unknown is expected to exceed \$100,000 per year. Political subdivision reimbursement subject to appropriation, and does not include possible costs to fully fund Foundation Formula. Net Reduction to Blind Pension Fund of \$0 in FY 2004, \$0 in FY 2005, and \$0 to \$15,400 in FY 2006. Estimated Net Savings to Senior Rx Fund of \$8,550,000 in FY 2004, \$14,650,000 in FY 2005, and \$15,400,000 in FY 2006.