

SS SCS HCS HB 186 -- LOCAL GOVERNMENT

This bill changes the laws regarding local government. In its main provisions, the bill:

(1) Requires moneys received or collected to fund additional costs incurred by any county office to be reviewed by the county budget officer when he or she is formulating the annual budget and to be used solely for the purposes outlined for each fund (Section 67.055, RSMo);

(2) Specifies that an improvement cost, assessed by a reasonable assessment plan in a neighborhood improvement district determined by a governing body, may include a determination that all units are equally benefitted in the case of condo or equitable owner association ownership (Section 67.459);

(3) Authorizes the City of Maryville to impose, upon voter approval, a transient guest tax of up to 5% on hotel and motel rooms (Section 67.1003);

(4) Changes the definition of "agency" in the provisions related to homeless assistance programs to include any entity which provides any service related to homeless persons, rather than just housing-related assistance, modifies the information required in an application for funds to help provide services to homeless persons, and changes the requirements for qualifying for funds (Sections 67.1062, 67.1067, 67.1069, and 67.1070);

(5) Authorizes a lien on property against the real and personal property of a business when any tax, interest, or penalty imposed under the County Convention and Sports Facilities Authority in St. Charles County becomes delinquent. Provisions to release the lien are provided (Section 67.1159);

(6) Authorizes any city or county to levy a sales tax of up to 0.5%, upon voter approval. This tax must be in lieu of the economic development sales tax allowed by Sections 67.1300 and 67.1303 (Section 67.1305);

(7) Modifies the current authorization which certain counties with significant lake shoreline have to impose, upon voter approval, a single retail sales tax not to exceed 1.5% for the purpose of promoting water quality, infrastructure, and tourism so that voters can approve one or more retail sales taxes not to exceed 1.5% in the aggregate for the purpose of affecting water quality, infrastructure, or tourism, singularly or in any combination (Sections 67.1922 and 67.1934);

(8) Changes the laws allowing all counties and the City of St. Louis to levy sales and property taxes to fund community services

for children by clarifying that the sole purpose of the tax is to provide services to protect the well-being and safety of children and youth and to strengthen families (Sections 67.1775, 210.860, and 210.861);

(9) Allows for an imposition of property tax of 25 cents on each \$100 of assessed valuation on taxable property to provide counseling, family support, and temporary residential services to persons 18 years of age or younger and those services described in Section 210.861. Currently, this section provides for the same 25-cent property tax to be levied for counseling, family support, and temporary residential services to persons 18 years of age or younger. Revenues derived from the tax will be deposited into the county treasury to the credit of the Community Children's Services Fund to provide funds for counseling and related services to children and youth in the county which will promote healthy lifestyles among children and youth and strengthen families (Sections 67.1775, 210.860, and 210.861);

(10) Restructures the board of directors for the tourism community enhancement districts and recalculates the dispersion of sales taxes in the districts (Sections 67.1956, 67.1959, 67.1968, and 67.1979);

(11) Authorizes the City of Independence, upon voter approval, to impose a sales tax in increments of one-eighth of 1% up to a maximum of 2% on all retail sales of food within the city to be used for a museum and for tourism-related activities. Activities that will qualify for the tax revenue are specified as well as the method of collecting the tax. A procedure is established for the repeal of the tax (Section 82.850);

(12) Authorizes the City of Excelsior Springs to levy a tax of 30 cents on each \$100 of assessed valuation on taxable property for hospital, public health, or museum purposes in lieu of the current 20 cents (Section 94.070);

(13) Prohibits, on or after January 1, 2006, the City of St. Peters from levying and collecting a license fee on a hotel or motel in an amount exceeding \$1,000 per year and authorizes the city to increase the hotel/motel license tax by 5% per year, but the total tax levied cannot exceed one-eighth of 1% of the hotel's or motel's gross revenue. Other cities, including Edmundson and Woodson Terrace, are authorized to increase the hotel/motel license tax by 5% per year, but the total tax levied cannot exceed the greater of one-eighth of 1% of the hotel's or motel's gross revenue or the business license tax rate for the hotel or motel on May 1, 2005 (Section 94.270);

(14) Increases from .5% to 1% a transportation sales tax that the City of St. Louis and St. Louis County may propose, by order

or ordinance, upon voter approval (Section 94.660);

(15) Authorizes any city with a population of 100 or more to levy a transportation sales tax, upon voter approval. Currently, only cities with a population of 200 or more are authorized to levy this tax (Section 94.700);

(16) Authorizes the cities of Canton, La Grange, and Edina to impose a transient guest tax, upon voter approval, on all hotels and motels within their city limits. This tax cannot exceed 5% per occupied room per night and is to be used solely for promoting tourism (Section 94.837);

(17) Authorizes the City of Lamar Heights to impose, upon voter approval, a room tax of no more than 6% per night and a local sales tax on food of no more than 2%. These taxes will be used solely for capital improvements. This section contains an emergency clause (Section 94.838);

(18) Adds junior college districts to the list of entities which must be notified of and receive payments in lieu of taxes from municipal industrial development projects involving the issuance of revenue bonds or the conveyance of municipal property. The bill also requires that, if the project plan is approved after May 15, 2005, in Franklin County, all affected taxing entities receive notice and payment in lieu of taxes (Sections 100.050 and 100.059);

(19) Changes the application procedures for the Missouri Homestead Preservation Act for the elderly and disabled (Sections 135.010 and 137.106);

(20) Limits the amount of revenue from admission fees for gaming boats that the City of St. Charles may collect after Fiscal Year 2008 to the percentage of revenue attributable to admission fees for Fiscal Year 2007 (Sections 137.073 and 313.820);

(21) Exempts motor vehicles leased for a period of one year or more to a religious, educational, or charitable organization from state, county, and local taxation (Section 137.100);

(22) Removes the term "solely" from the requirement for nonprofit, social, service, and fraternal organizations to be exempt from sales tax (Section 144.030);

(23) Establishes a partial sales tax exemption for the sale of modular units. The manufacturer of modular units will be considered the contractor for use tax purposes, and the tax will be computed on the use tax rate where the modular unit is being placed (Section 144.044);

(24) Exempts machine or parts for machines used in a commercial, coin-operated amusement and vending business where sales tax is paid on the gross receipts derived from the use of the machines (Section 144.518);

(25) Establishes the African-American History Museum and Cultural Subdistrict under the metropolitan zoological park and museum district (Sections 184.352 and 184.353);

(26) Authorizes, upon voter approval, an increase in the property tax rate for certain history museum subdistricts (Section 184.357); and

(27) Authorizes Madison County to impose, upon voter approval, a local sales tax up to 1% for public recreational projects and programs, including land acquisition (Section 1).