HCS HJR 36 -- PERSONAL PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTION FOR MILITARY PERSONNEL

SPONSOR: Jackson (Bruns)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass" by the Committee on Veterans by a vote of 11 to 0.

This proposed constitutional amendment exempts from taxation, upon voter approval, the personal property of residents who are on active military duty.

FISCAL NOTE: Estimated Effect on General Revenue Fund of a cost of \$52,560 in FY 2007, \$0 in FY 2008, and \$0 in FY 2009. No impact on Other State Funds in FY 2007, FY 2008, and FY 2009.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that the bill eliminates personal property taxes for anyone in this state who is engaged in active duty with the military. When a person is deployed with the military, it can create a great financial hardship for the family. The bill will only apply to personal property, not real estate, and only for the time the soldier is deployed. Upon return from deployment, the taxes will accrue normally. There are already many personal property tax exemptions in the statutes. For example, historic automobiles are taxed a different rate than a typical automobile. The bill will allow Missouri citizens to vote on if the personal property of a deployed soldier should be taxed.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Bruns; Marine Corps League, Department of Missouri; Missouri Veterans Commission; Military Officers Association of America, State Council; Missouri Association of Veterans Organizations; American Legion, Department of Missouri; Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, Missouri Department; Missouri County Collectors Association; Missouri Assessors Association; and Missouri Association of Counties.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

Alice Hurley, Legislative Analyst