

HCS HB 616 -- COUNTY BOARDS OF EQUALIZATION

SPONSOR: Deeken (Wood)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass by consent" by the Special Committee on Government Affairs by a vote of 7 to 0.

This substitute makes the county assessor a nonvoting member of his or her county board of equalization and requires the county commission to appoint two additional members to the board. County assessors or a member of his or her staff will be required to attend any meeting of the board and will have the right to present evidence regarding any assessment matter.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2008, FY 2009, and FY 2010.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that the bill increases the impartiality of the county board of equalization by removing the assessor as a voting member on issues where assessed values are being appealed. The assessor is still allowed to present his or her case for the assessed value to the board, but only as an advocate and not a voting member.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Wood; Darrell King; and Charles Nordwald.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

OTHERS: Others testifying on the bill say that the assessor needs to remain a part of the process in determining appeals on contested assessed values.

Testifying on the bill was Missouri Assessor's Association.