

HCS SS SB 937 -- POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS

SPONSOR: Wallingford (Eggleston)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with Amendments" by the Standing Committee on Emerging Issues by a vote of 7 to 0. Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Select Committee on General Laws by a vote of 7 to 2.

Currently, regional jail districts are authorized to impose a sales tax of up to 1/2% on sales in the district. The authority to impose this tax expires on September 30, 2015. This bill extends the authority of the districts to collect the tax until September 30, 2028. This bill also allows the Director of the Department of Revenue to make refunds instead of allowing the director to authorize the state treasurer to make refunds.

This bill adds Archie and Lake Winnebago to the list of cities that may impose a transient guest tax subject to voter approval. This tax consists of an amount between 2% and 5% per occupied room per night for purposes of promoting tourism.

This bill authorizes Green County or any city within Greene County to impose a sales tax not to exceed 1/4% on all retail sales within the county or city for the purpose of funding early childhood education subject to voter approval.

This bill authorizes Liberty and North Kansas City to impose a sales tax of up to 1/2% solely for the purpose of improving the public safety of the city subject to voter approval. Revenue from this tax may be used for expenditures on equipment, salaries and benefits, and facilities for police, fire, and emergency medical providers.

This bill authorizes Cedar County to impose a local sales tax up to 1/2% for funding a public library district.

Currently, both county commissions and county health center boards may make and establish orders, ordinances, rules or regulations under certain circumstances, but cannot conflict with any rules or regulations of the Department of Health and Senior Services or the Department of Social Services. This bill requires the County Commission and the County Health Center Board to be in concurrence when establishing health orders, ordinances, rules or regulations, except in the case of an emergency.

This bill authorizes Barton County to repeal a property tax and replace it with a sales tax of up to 1% for the funding of a hospital district subject to voter approval.

This bill authorizes the fire protection district in Ripley County to impose a sales tax not to exceed 1/2% for the purpose of providing revenues for the operation of the fire protection district subject to voter approval.

This bill adds the board of a county sheltered workshop to the types of political subdivisions that may contract and cooperate with other political subdivisions for a common service.

This bill provides that any single noncharter county judicial circuit, rather than just the 31st Judicial Circuit, shall collect a surcharge of up to \$10 in all cases to be deposited in an account known as the "Justice Center Fund." In addition to costs associated with the construction, maintenance, and operation of a judicial facility, the bill states that the funds from the surcharge may be used for the planning, including architectural and engineering plans, of a judicial facility or justice center. The county or municipality shall maintain records identifying all funds received and expenditures made from the fund.

This bill modifies the term "water resource project" to mean a project containing planning, design, construction, or renovation of public water supply, flood control storage, or treatment or transmission facilities for public water supply. The bill changes the name of the "Multipurpose Water Resource Program Renewable Water Program Fund" to the "Multipurpose Water Resource Program Fund". The Department of Natural Resources is required to establish rules by which water resource project sponsors can remit contributions to the fund. Any plan submitted to the Director of the Department of Natural Resources for the construction of a water resource project must include a schedule, proposed by the sponsor, to remit contributions back to the fund. The contributions are to be used to administer the fund and to provide financial assistance under the Multipurpose Water Resource Act.

This bill states that neither the state nor any entity therein shall be permitted to expand their definition of residential rental property by further subdividing a parcel of residential rental property when enforcing a rental licensing ordinance. Neither the state nor any political subdivision thereof shall require or enforce an occupancy permit and a business rental license simultaneously for the same parcel of residential rental property.

This bill also makes changes to the member requirements of the Clean Water Commission.

This bill is similar to HCS HB 2188, 1533, 1393, 2114 & 2113, HB 1561, HB 1421, and HB 1012 (2016).

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that this bill continues to allow a county to create or join an existing jail district so that the county doesn't have to pay fees to transport its prisoners to another jail district.

Testifying for the bill were Senator Wallingford and the Missouri Association of Counties.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.