

HCS SB 146 -- POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS

SPONSOR: Romine (Henderson)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Standing Committee on Local Government by a vote of 8 to 5.

SPECIFIC DOG BREEDS

This bill specifies that the General Assembly occupies and preempts the entire field of legislation touching in any way the control or regulation of specific breeds of dogs. However, a village, town, or city can still prohibit dogs from running at large or to further control or regulate dogs within its boundaries so long as the ordinance, order, policy, or regulation is not breed specific.

This is the same as HB 905 (2017).

POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS

The bill also requires that any political subdivision that maintains a credit rating by a nationally recognized bond rating agency of A, AA, or AAA issuing more than \$10 million debt in a calendar year must use a competitive process unless employing a municipal advisor. The municipal advisor can use a negotiated or competitive process to issue debt, but cannot profit financially either directly or indirectly from the underwriter of a negotiated bond issuance and must be independent of the underwriter.

This bill also requires the State Treasurer to provide relevant information to political subdivisions on debt issuance to aid them with the process of issuing debt and awarding bonds to the highest and best bidder.

This is similar to HB 950 and HB 545 (2017).

COUNTY SPECIAL ROAD AND BRIDGE TAX

The classification of certain counties exempt from the requirement that not less than 25% of a county's special road and bridge tax collected in a municipality within the county must be expended within the municipality for the repair and improvement of existing roads, streets, and bridges is changed from second to first and the population parameters are changed from 65,000-75,000 to 50,000-70,000. Currently, the changed classification only applies to St. Francois and Taney counties.

This is similar to HB 87 (2017).

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that the county classification has changed so it is necessary to amend the statute in order for the exemption to still apply to any affected county.

Testifying for the bill was Senator Romine.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.