

HB 1721 -- AGRICULTURAL LAND VALUES

SPONSOR: Black

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Ways and Means by a vote of 9 to 0.

This bill prohibits the State Tax Commission from promulgating a rule that increases agricultural land productive values more than 2% over the current values in effect prior to the rule promulgation or 8% above the lowest value in effect in any of the 10 years prior to the rule promulgation. The Commission is also prohibited from increasing the values for land in any county that has been declared by the United States Department of Agriculture to be affected by a natural disaster in the preceding two years.

This bill is the same as SB 548 (2018).

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that the current process used to increase land productivity values provides financial instability for farmers in the state. This bill would modify the process to limit the proposed increases and would also keep the State Tax Commission from raising the values on lands affected by a recent natural disaster.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Black; Missouri Pork Association; Missouri Farm Bureau; Missouri Soybean Association; John Bryan, Missouri Poultry Federation; and the Missouri Cattlemen's Association.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.