

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

FISCAL NOTE

L.R. No.: 2104-03
Bill No.: HCS for HB 1209
Subject: Trees and Other Plants; Agriculture; Higher Education; Department of Natural Resources
Type: Original
Date: April 26, 2019

Bill Summary: This proposal establishes the Missouri Solar Pollinator Habitat Act.

FISCAL SUMMARY

| ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND | | | |
|--|------------|------------|------------|
| FUND AFFECTED | FY 2020 | FY 2021 | FY 2022 |
| | | | |
| Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |

| ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS | | | |
|---|------------|------------|------------|
| FUND AFFECTED | FY 2020 | FY 2021 | FY 2022 |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>Other</u> State Funds | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |

Numbers within parentheses: () indicate costs or losses.

This fiscal note contains 5 pages.

| ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS | | | |
|---|------------|------------|------------|
| FUND AFFECTED | FY 2020 | FY 2021 | FY 2022 |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> Federal Funds | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |

| ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FULL TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE) | | | |
|---|----------|----------|----------|
| FUND AFFECTED | FY 2020 | FY 2021 | FY 2022 |
| | | | |
| | | | |
| Total Estimated Net Effect on FTE | 0 | 0 | 0 |

☐ Estimated Net Effect (expenditures or reduced revenues) expected to exceed \$100,000 in any of the three fiscal years after implementation of the act.

| ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL FUNDS | | | |
|--|------------|------------|------------|
| FUND AFFECTED | FY 2020 | FY 2021 | FY 2022 |
| Local Government | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |

FISCAL ANALYSIS

ASSUMPTION

Officials from the **Department of Natural Resources** assume the proposal will have no fiscal impact on their organization.

In response to a previous version, officials from the **Missouri Department of Conservation** assumed the proposal would have no fiscal impact on their organization.

Oversight notes that the agencies mentioned above have stated the proposal would not have a direct fiscal impact on their organization. Oversight does not have any information to the contrary. Therefore, Oversight will reflect a zero impact on the fiscal note for these agencies.

Officials from the **Department of Agriculture (AGR)** assume the proposal will have no fiscal impact on their organization. AGR states the Department's only involvement in bees is limited to bee hive inspections for pests and diseases. Since the number of pollinators is much larger than the honey bee population, the Department is minimally involved in pollinator issues.

In response to a similar proposal from 2019 (SCS for SB 517), officials from the **University of Missouri** assumed there would be no significant cost to the university.

Oversight notes that the University of Missouri has stated the proposal would not have a direct fiscal impact on their organization. Oversight does not have any information to the contrary. Therefore, Oversight will reflect a zero impact on the fiscal note for the University of Missouri.

Oversight researched other states with solar pollinator habitat programs which required developing a scorecard similar to this proposal. The Maryland General Assembly passed a law in the 2017 legislation session (SB 1158). The fiscal note for this bill estimated an increase of \$6,500 per additional facility evaluated (over the life of the facility) for contractual services. That estimate includes costs for the initial designation and periodic follow-up visits to ensure maintenance of the pollinator habitat. The fiscal note did not mention how much it cost to develop the scorecard. Oversight notes this proposal does not require DNR to evaluate sites, only to develop and publish a scorecard. Oversight notes Virginia and Michigan have already published a scorecard. Both states utilized their respective state universities to create the scorecard. Oversight sent this proposal to the University of Missouri but has not received a response prior to submitting the fiscal note.

| <u>FISCAL IMPACT - State Government</u> | FY 2020 (10 Mo.) | FY 2021 | FY 2022 |
|---|---------------------|---------|---------|
|---|---------------------|---------|---------|

| | | | |
|--|------------|------------|------------|
| | <u>\$0</u> | <u>\$0</u> | <u>\$0</u> |
|--|------------|------------|------------|

| <u>FISCAL IMPACT - Local Government</u> | FY 2020 (10 Mo.) | FY 2021 | FY 2022 |
|---|---------------------|---------|---------|
|---|---------------------|---------|---------|

| | | | |
|--|------------|------------|------------|
| | <u>\$0</u> | <u>\$0</u> | <u>\$0</u> |
|--|------------|------------|------------|

FISCAL IMPACT - Small Business

No direct fiscal impact to small businesses would be expected as a result of this proposal.

FISCAL DESCRIPTION

This bill establishes the "Missouri Solar Pollinator Habitat Act," which requires the University of Missouri, in consultation with other state and non-governmental agencies, to publish a scorecard that sets out criteria for claiming that a solar site is pollinator-friendly or provides benefits to pollinators. The scorecard must be available on the department's website withing six months of the effective date of the bill.

An owner of a solar site implementing site management practices specified in the bill may claim that the site is pollinator-friendly or provides benefits to pollinators if the site and its vegetation management plan adhere to the criteria set out in the scorecard. An owner making a claim that it is pollinator-friendly or provides benefits to pollinators must make available to the public and provide to the University of Missouri and a nonprofit solar industry trade association a copy of its completed scorecard and vegetation management plan.

This legislation is not federally mandated, would not duplicate any other program and would not require additional capital improvements or rental space.

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SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Department of Natural Resources
Department of Agriculture
Missouri Department of Conservation
University of Missouri



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Director
April 26, 2019

Ross Strobe
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April 26, 2019