

HCS HB 220 -- ELECTRIC COMPANY PROPERTY TAXATION

SPONSOR: Andrews

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Standing Committee on Utilities by a vote of 14 to 0. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules- Legislative Oversight by a vote of 8 to 0.

Beginning January 1, 2020 any public utility company which has ownership of any real or personal property associated with a project that directly uses wind energy to generate electricity will be taxed using a standardized methodology of:

(1) Any wind turbine having an annual tax liability of \$5900 per megawatt for a public utility company that owns property associated with a project that directly uses wind energy;

(2) Any property consisting of land and buildings of a public utility company that owns property associated with a project that directly uses wind energy will be assessed under Section 137.076, RSMo; and

(3) All other business or personal property of a public utility company that owns property associated with a project that directly uses wind energy will be assessed under Section 137.122 (Section 153.030, RSMo).

Additionally, this bill specifies that any real or tangible personal property associated with a project which uses wind energy directly to generate electricity shall be valued and taxed by any state and local authorities having jurisdiction (Section 153.034).

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that this bill would allow the tax revenue generated by the wind energy project to stay in the local jurisdiction. Local governments used tax incentive programs to attract wind generation projects knowing that the project would bring additional tax revenues to the area. Without this bill, that additional tax revenue would be spread across the state, with little to no revenue remaining in the local jurisdiction.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Andrews; Mark Walter, Tradewind Energy; Wendy Nordwald, Missouri Association of Counties - Missouri State Assessors Association; Josh Mckim, Nodaway County Economic Development (NCED); Suzette M. Taylor, Atchison County; Nextra Energy Resources, LLC; Kirksville Regional Economic Development, Inc.; and Empire Liberty Utilities.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.