HCS HB 762 -- MUNICIPAL GOVERNMENT (Wiemann)

COMMITTEE OF ORIGIN: Standing Committee on Local Government

This bill establishes the "Missouri Municipal Government Expenditure Database," to be maintained by the Office of Administration. Information for half of each calendar year is provided by July 1st for the first half and January 30th for the second half of the calendar year. Expenditure information will not be required prior to January 1, 2022. The database must include extensive information about a given municipality's expenditures and the vendors to whom payments were made. The data base must be accessible by the public without charge and have multiple ways to search and filter the information. Municipalities with websites must provide a link to the database. Comment on the utility of the database will be allowed, and specified confidential information may be redacted from the database.

The Office of Administration may stipulate a format for information and will provide a template for municipalities to use in sending information electronically to the Office of Administration. Other duties and responsibilities of the Office of Administration regarding the database are detailed in the bill. Financial reimbursement to municipalities for costs associated with the database is authorized.

There will be a fine of not more than \$100 per day for municipal noncompliance with the informational requirements of the bill. The Office of Administration may require the Missouri Department of Revenue to collect fines from municipalities using tax collection withholding as specified in the bill. Municipalities will have notice as specified in the bill prior to a fine being levied and may submit the required information to the database within 30 days of notice to avoid a fine.

This bill is similar to SB 125 (2019) and HCS HB 2242 (2018).