

HCS HJR 19 -- TAX ELECTIONS

SPONSOR: Christofanelli

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Standing Committee on Downsizing State Government by a vote of 5 to 3. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules- Legislative Oversight by a vote of 5 to 3.

This bill requires that elections held to increase state, county, municipal, or political subdivision taxes or fees must meet a 50% eligible voter turnout rate to be legitimate, as well as requiring that the tax or fee measure be passed by majority vote at the next general election.

This bill is the same as SJR 12 (2019).

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that this bill will require a 50% eligible voter turnout for any tax increases in this state. Many political subdivisions place tax increases on the ballot when they know there will not be very good voter turnout.

Testifying for the bill was Representative Christofanelli.

OPPONENTS: Those who oppose the bill say that this bill could cause people to not get out and vote so that the tax could be defeated because people choose not to vote to keep under the threshold.

Testifying against the bill was the Missouri National Education Association.

This bill is the same as SJR 12 (2019).