

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

FISCAL NOTE

L.R. No.: 2071H.01I
Bill No.: HB 959
Subject: Agriculture; Business and Commerce
Type: Original
Date: March 27, 2023

Bill Summary: This proposal creates provisions relating to rural workforce development incentives.

FISCAL SUMMARY

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026
General Revenue Fund*	(\$333,352) up to \$1,246,648	(\$369,064) up to or could exceed \$1,210,936	(\$375,610) up to (\$23,795,610)
Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue	(\$333,352) up to \$1,246,648	(\$369,064) up to or could exceed \$1,210,936	(\$375,610) up to (\$23,795,610)

*Oversight reflects the program's \$25 million annual cap on tax credit issuance beginning in FY 2026.

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>Other</u> State Funds	0	0	0

Numbers within parentheses: () indicate costs or losses.

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FULL TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE)			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026
General Revenue Fund	3 FTE	3 FTE	3 FTE
Total Estimated Net Effect on FTE	3 FTE	3 FTE	3 FTE

☒ Estimated Net Effect (expenditures or reduced revenues) expected to exceed \$250,000 in any of the three fiscal years after implementation of the act or at full implementation of the act.

☒ Estimated Net Effect (savings or increased revenues) expected to exceed \$250,000 in any of the three fiscal years after implementation of the act or at full implementation of the act.

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2024	FY 2025	FY 2026
Local Government	\$0	\$0	\$0

FISCAL ANALYSIS

ASSUMPTION

Officials from the **Department of Economic Development (DED)** note:

Section 620.3500 creates the “Missouri Rural Workforce Development Act”.

This proposed legislation requires DED to accept applications from “rural funds” that seek to have an equity investment certified as a “capital investment” eligible for tax credits. A “Rural Fund” is any entity certified by DED under this proposed legislation. A “Capital Investment” is an investment in a rural fund by a rural investor that is acquired after the effective date of this proposed legislation at its original issuance solely in exchange for cash, has one hundred percent (100%) of its cash purchase price used by the rural fund to make qualified investments in eligible businesses located in this state by the third anniversary of the initial credit allowance date, and is designated by the rural fund as a capital investment and certified by DED as a capital investment.

DED notes, upon making a capital investment, a rural investor shall have a vested right to a credit against the investor’s state tax liability in an amount equal to the applicable percentage for such credit allowance date multiplied by the purchase price paid to the rural fund for the capital investment. DED states that no eligible business that receives a qualified investment, or any affiliates of such eligible business, shall directly or indirectly own or have the right to acquire an ownership interest in a rural fund.

The program will automatically sunset on six years after the effective date unless reauthorized by an act of the general assembly.

DED will need to hire 3.0 FTE to administer the program. There will be an estimated cost of \$25M per year. Impact to revenue for tax credits starts in FY26 since applicable percentage for first two credits allowance dates are zero. FTE impact starts in FY24.

Oversight will include DED’s FTE costs, as reported by DED, less the costs reported for in-state and out-of-state travel, as this proposed legislation does not require DED to inspect or audit any site(s).

Officials from the **Department of Commerce and Insurance (DCI)** assume the proposal, specifically Section(s) 620.3500 to 620.3530 could affect their agency.

A potential unknown decrease of premium tax revenues (up to the tax credit limit established in the bill) in FY2024, FY2025 and FY2026 as a result of the creation of the Missouri Rural Workforce Development Act tax credit. Premium tax revenue is split 50/50 between General Revenue and County Foreign Insurance Fund except for domestic Stock Property and Casualty Companies who pay premium tax to the County Stock Fund. The County Foreign Insurance

Fund is later distributed to school districts throughout the state. County Stock Funds are later distributed to the school district and county treasurer of the county in which the principal office of the insurer is located. It is unknown how each of these funds may be impacted by tax credits each year and which insurers will qualify for the new tax credit. **Oversight** will assume, for fiscal note simplification purposes that all credits will be taken against income tax liabilities.

The department will require minimal contract computer programming to add this new tax credit to the premium tax database and can do so under existing appropriation. However, should multiple bills pass that would require additional updates to the premium tax database, the department may need to request more expense and equipment appropriation through the budget process.

Oversight notes additional staff and expenses are not being requested by DCI with this single proposal, but if multiple proposals pass during the legislative session which require form reviews, DCI will need to request additional staff to handle the increase in workload. Therefore, Oversight will reflect the no fiscal impact assumed by DCI for fiscal note purposes.

Officials from the **Office of Administration – Budget & Planning** assume the proposed legislation would create a tax credit for taxpayers making a capital investment in a rural fund against such investor's state tax liability. The tax credit shall be equal to a proportion of their investment into the rural fund. There is a cap of \$25 million that can be redeemed each calendar year; therefore, TSR could be reduced by up to \$25 million. The tax credit has a five year carry forward, so in a particular calendar year more than \$25 million may be redeemed. The credit shall not be refundable or sellable.

In addition, a rural fund that seeks to have an equity investment certified as a capital investment eligible for credits shall pay a nonrefundable application fee of five thousand dollars to DED. B&P assumes this money would go into GR. Therefore, GR could be increased by an unknown amount. There is not enough available data for B&P to estimate the potential revenues.

At the time a rural fund exists the program, it should be subject to a penalty if projected job creation metrics are not achieved. To the extent any penalties are deposited in the state treasury, TSR may increase.

This proposal could impact the calculation pursuant to Art. X, Sec. 18(e).

Oversight notes B&P assumes the proposal will have no fiscal impact on their organization.

Oversight does not have any information to the contrary. Therefore, Oversight will reflect a zero impact in the fiscal note for this agency.

Officials from the **Department of Revenue (DOR)** note:

Sections 620.3500 – 620.3530 Missouri Rural Workforce Development Act

This proposal would add new sections 620.3500 to 620.3530, known as the “Missouri Rural Workforce Development Act.” It would be administered by DED. DOR is not mentioned in the proposal, but would be responsible for processing the tax credits claimed by taxpayers on returns and coordinate, as necessary, with DED.

Section 620.3515 sets the annual cap for the tax credit at \$25 million. The credits are not refundable or sellable.

Section 620.3520 - Authorizes the tax credit, not exceeding the amount of the rural investor’s income tax for the year in which the credit is claimed. Unused portions of the credit may be carried forward to the next five tax years but may not be carried back.

Section 620.3520.3 - Sets forth the circumstances under which DED may recapture from a rural investor that claimed the credit. Section 620.3520.4, provides that recaptured credits are to be re-distributed, pro rata, to credit applicants whose allocations were previously reduced. They assume that DED would notify DOR of any recaptured credits. DOR would then recalculate the taxpayer's return and bill the taxpayer for any shortcomings. DOR assumes they could absorb this duty with existing staff should it be necessary for DED to do a recapture of credits.

This proposal would become effective on August 28, 2023. This proposal states that a capital investment is any equity investment in a rural fund by a rural investor and that investment must be made AFTER the effective date of this proposal. After August 28, 2023 potential investors could make the required investments and then file an application with DED along with a \$5,000 application fee. Upon certification by DED, the investors would be eligible to receive the tax credit for the six credit allowance dates. Those credit allowance dates are the date of certification and each of the five anniversary dates thereafter. Based on the requirements of the investment, for fiscal note purposes they will assume the first date of certification will be January 1, 2024.

This proposal states the tax credit is based on an applicable percentage of the investment. The percentage for the first two years is zero (0%) and each of the next four years the percentage is fifteen percent (15%). Therefore with a certification date of January 1, 2024, the first two years no credits would be issued. Starting January 1, 2026 the first credits would be issued. They could potentially (depending on when issued) be redeemed in that same year.

This will be a loss to general revenue of up to the \$25 million annually starting in FY 2026.

This would be a new income tax credit and it would be added to the MO-TC and information about the credit would be added to the website and changes would be needed in the individual income tax system. DOR notes the costs to update these items is \$7,193. DOR assumes it can absorb this credit with existing staff. Should the number of redemptions/correspondence justify the hiring of additional FTE, the Department will request those FTE through the appropriation process.

- 1 FTE Associate Customer Service Rep for every 6,000 credits redeemed
- 1 FTE Associate Customer Service Rep for every 7,600 errors/correspondence generated

Oversight notes that DOR assumes the proposal will function as follows:

A taxpayer qualifies for a \$1 million dollar investment on January 1, 2024. Here is the estimated amount of credit received and when.

YEAR	CREDIT ALLOWANCE DATE	CREDIT AMOUNT
1/1/2024	1	\$0
1/1/2025	2	\$0
1/1/2026	3	\$150,000 (\$1,000,000 x 15%)
1/1/2027	4	\$150,000 (\$1,000,000 x 15%)
1/1/2028	5	\$150,000 (\$1,000,000 x 15%)
1/1/2029	6	\$150,000 (\$1,000,000 x 15%)

This will be a loss to general revenue of up to the \$25 million cap annually starting in FY 2026.

Oversight notes this proposed legislation would award tax credits to rural investors who have made an equity investment in a rural fund so long as such equity investment is later certified by the Missouri Department of Economic Development as a capital investment.

In order for an equity investment to be certified as a capital investment, a rural fund must apply with the Missouri Department of Economic Development to have the equity investment certified as a capital investment. The applicant must complete an application including the amount of capital investment requested, a copy of the applicants, or the affiliate of the applicant's, license as a Rural Business Investment Company (RBIC) under 7 U.S.C. Section 2009cc (U.S.D.A Rural Business Investment Program) or as a Small Business Investment Company (SBIC) under 15 U.S.C. Section 681 (SBA Small Business Investment Program), evidence that the applicant or affiliates of the applicant have invested at least a) one hundred million dollars (\$100,000,000) in nonpublic companies located in counties within the United States with a population of less than fifty thousand, or b) at least thirty million dollars inn nonpublic companies located in Missouri. The business plan that includes a revenue impact assessment, and a nonrefundable application fee of \$5,000.

Per the latest available data from the [Small Business Investment Company Program Overview](#), as of September 30, 2021, there were approximately 307 privately owned and managed SBA licensed SBICs.

Table 1: Program Composition of the Types of Operating SBICs					
Type of Operating SBICs	FY End 2017	FY End 2018	FY End 2019	FY End 2020	FY End 2021

Total Number of Type of Operating SBICs	315	305	300	302	307
Number of Debenture SBICs	227	227	224	232	235
Number of Participating Security SBICs	33	25	22	12	9
Number of Bank-Owned or Non-Leveraged SBICs	47	47	48	52	56
Number of Specialized SBICs	8	6	6	6	7

Per correspondence received from the United States Department of Agriculture in February 2021, there are approximately 10 certified [RBICs](#). In addition, there have been four (4) investments made in Missouri totaling almost \$12,000,000.

Oversight assumes SBICs and RBICs are nationally oriented; various companies may focus on specific regions but no one entity is specific to the State of Missouri.

Oversight notes this proposed legislation states that a capital investment is any equity investment in a rural fund by a rural investor which, is acquired **after** the effective date of this proposed legislation.

Oversight notes this proposed legislation would require applicants under this proposed legislation to submit an application to the Missouri Department of Economic Development accompanied with a nonrefundable \$5,000 application fee.

Oversight notes this proposed legislation does not specifically state where the application fee(s) shall be deposited. For the purpose of this fiscal note, Oversight will assume such application fee(s) will be deposited into GR.

Oversight notes the Missouri Department of Economic Development shall begin accepting applications ninety days after the effective date of this proposed legislation. Therefore, Oversight assumes applications, accompanied with the nonrefundable fee of \$5,000 could be submitted as early as Fiscal Year 2024.

Therefore, **Oversight** will report a revenue gain to GR equal to \$0 (no applications/fee(s) submitted) or \$5,000 (one application/fee is submitted) up to \$1,585,000 ($\$5,000 * 307$ (# of SBICs) + 10 (# of certified RBICs)) beginning in Fiscal Year 2024.

Oversight notes, once an equity investment is certified as a capital investment, the rural investor shall have a vested right to a tax credit to be issued to be used against the rural investor's state income tax liability that may be utilized on each credit allowance date of such capital investment in an amount equal to the applicable percentage for such credit allowance date multiplied by the purchase price paid to the rural fund.

Oversight, then, assumes the following example describes a tax credit allocation under this proposed legislation:

If Company A were to have \$100,000,000 certified as a capital investment on January 1, 2024, Company A's credit allowance date(s) would be: January 1, 2024 (0%), January 1, 2025, (0%) January 1, 2026 (15%), January 1, 2027 (15%), January 1, 2028 (15%), and January 1, 2029 (15%).

Oversight assumes, then, Company A would **not** receive a tax credit (a tax credit equal to zero percent (0%) multiplied by the amount certified as a capital investment) on January 1, 2024 and January 1, 2025.

Each January thereafter, with the last January being January 1, 2029, Company A would receive a tax credit equal to fifteen percent (15%) of the amount certified as a capital investment; or \$15,000,000.

Oversight assumes, then, Company A would receive a **total** of \$60,000,000 in tax credits over the course of six (6) years to be used throughout a total of eleven (11) years.

Oversight notes the Missouri Department of Economic Development shall begin accepting applications ninety days after the effective date of this proposed legislation. Therefore, Oversight assumes applications could be submitted as early as Fiscal Year 2024.

Oversight assumes, then, based on the tax credit allocation equation created under this proposed legislation, a rural investor could receive a tax credit in an amount greater than zero (\$0) beginning two (2) years after the initial certification date: Fiscal Year 2026.

Therefore, **Oversight** estimates the tax credit provision of this proposed legislation could result in a revenue reduction equal to \$0 (no certified capital investments) up to \$25,000,000 (tax credit authorization cap) beginning in Fiscal Year 2026.

Oversight notes this proposed legislation would allow for the recapture of tax credits issued to taxpayers provided rural fund(s) do not meet the requirements established in this proposed legislation.

Oversight notes this proposed legislation states that recaptured tax credits would be reverted to the Missouri Department of Economic Development and be reissued to applicants whose capital investment allocations were reduced in accordance with the application process (authorization cap).

Oversight further notes this proposed legislation does not specifically state where the payment of recaptured tax credits would be deposited. For the purpose of this fiscal note, Oversight will assume recaptured tax credit payments will be deposited into GR with the assumption that the Missouri Department of Economic Development will distribute the funds for further tax credit authorization(s).

Oversight notes tax credits authorized may be recaptured as early as the third anniversary date. Therefore, Oversight assumes this could be as early as Fiscal Year 2026.

Oversight is unable to determine the actual fiscal impact of the tax credit recapture provision. Therefore, for the purpose of this fiscal note, Oversight will report a revenue gain equal to “\$0 to Unknown” and a revenue reduction equal to “\$0 or Unknown” beginning in Fiscal Year 2026.

Oversight notes the Section 620.3530 5 provides DED with the authority to collect penalties if projected job creation is not achieved as follows:

- a) If less than 60% of projected job creation – 15% of distributed tax credit must be returned in form of cash
- b) If at least 60% is created but less than 80% - 10% of distributed tax credit must be returned in form of cash
- c) If at least 80% but less than 100% - 5% of distributed tax credit must be returned in form of cash

Oversight notes that any company can choose to exit the rural fund agreement after 6 years being in existence and DED must provide the company with approval of such an action within 30 days of the notice. If such an application is denied, the DED must provide the company with valid reasons for such an action.

Oversight notes the provisions of this proposed legislation state the Missouri Department of Economic Development shall not accept any new applications for tax credits after 2029.

Officials from **the Department Of Higher Education and Workforce Development**, the **Department of Labor and Industrial Relations**, the **Missouri Department of Agriculture**, the **City of Kansas City**, **City of O’Fallon**, and the **City of Springfield** each assume the proposal will have no fiscal impact on their respective organizations. **Oversight** does not have any information to the contrary. Therefore, Oversight will reflect a zero impact in the fiscal note for these agencies.

Rule Promulgation

Officials from the **Joint Committee on Administrative Rules** assume this proposal is not anticipated to cause a fiscal impact beyond its current appropriation.

In response to the previous version of the bill, officials from the **Office of the Secretary of State (SOS)** note many bills considered by the General Assembly include provisions allowing or requiring agencies to submit rules and regulations to implement the act. **The SOS is provided with core funding to handle a certain amount of normal activity resulting from each year's legislative session. The fiscal impact for this fiscal note to the SOS for Administrative Rules is less than \$5,000. The SOS recognizes that this is a small amount and does not expect that additional funding would be required to meet these costs.** However, the SOS also recognizes

that many such bills may be passed by the General Assembly in a given year and that collectively the costs may be in excess of what the office can sustain with its core budget. Therefore, the SOS reserves the right to request funding for the cost of supporting administrative rules requirements should the need arise based on a review of the finally approved bills signed by the governor.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT – State Government</u>	FY 2024 (10 Mo.)	FY 2025	FY 2026
<u>GENERAL REVENUE FUND</u>			
<u>Revenue Gain- Section 620.3510 – Nonrefundable Application Fee of \$5,000 – p. 6</u>	\$0 or \$5,000 up to \$1,585,000	\$0 or \$5,000 up to \$1,585,000	\$0 or \$5,000 up to \$1,585,000
<u>Revenue Reduction – Section 620.3515 – Tax Credit For Certified Capital Investment(s) -- (p. 6-8)</u>	\$0	\$0	\$0 up to (\$25,000,000)
<u>Revenue Gain – Transfer In – Section 620.3520.3 – Recapture of Tax Credits From Rural Investor (p. 7-8)</u>	\$0	\$0	\$0 to Unknown
<u>Revenue Loss – Transfer Out – Section 620.3520 – Recaptured Tax Credits (Re)Allocated to Missouri DED (p. 7-8)</u>	\$0	\$0	\$0 to (Unknown)
<u>Cost – Section(s) 620.3510, 620.3515 & 620.3520 – 3 FTE DED – (p.3)</u>			
Personnel Services	(\$186,660)	(\$228,472)	(\$233,041)
Fringe Benefits	(\$108,795)	(\$132,229)	(\$133,939)

Equipment & Expense	(\$42,898)	(\$13,363)	(\$13,630)
Total Cost	<u>(\$338,352)</u>	<u>(\$374,064)</u>	<u>(\$380,610)</u>
FTE Change – DED	3 FTE	3 FTE	3 FTE
ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND	<u>(\$333,352) up to \$1,246,648</u>	<u>(\$369,064) up to or could exceed \$1,210,936</u>	<u>(\$375,610) up to (\$23,795,610)</u>

<u>FISCAL IMPACT – Local Government</u>	FY 2024 (10 Mo.)	FY 2025	FY 2026
	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>

FISCAL IMPACT – Small Business

This proposed legislation could positively impact any small business that qualifies for a tax credit under this proposed legislation as such small business could reduce or eliminate such small business's state tax liability.

FISCAL DESCRIPTION

This bill establishes the "Missouri Rural Workforce Development Act", which provides a tax credit for certain investments made in businesses located in rural areas in this state.

The bill allows investors to make capital investments in a rural fund. A rural fund wishing to accept investments as ca

pital investments must apply to the Department of Economic Development. The application must include the amount of capital investment requested, a copy of the applicant's license as a rural business or small business investment company, evidence that the applicant has made at least \$100 million in investments in nonpublic companies located in counties throughout the United States with a population less than 50,000, evidence that the applicant has made at least \$30 million in investments in nonpublic companies located in Missouri, and a business plan that includes a revenue impact statement projecting state and local tax revenue to be generated by the applicant's proposed qualified investments. The rural fund must also submit a nonrefundable application fee of \$5,000. The Department must grant or deny an application within 60 days of receipt.

The Department must deny an application if such application is incomplete or insufficient, if the revenue impact assessment does not demonstrate that the business plan will result in a positive economic impact on the state over a 10 year period, or if the Department has already approved the maximum amount of capital investment authority.

Investors are allowed a tax credit for a period of six years beginning with the year the investor made a capital investment. The tax credit must be equal to a percentage of the capital investment as explained in the bill. Tax credits issued must not be refundable, but may be carried forward to any of the five subsequent tax years. No more than \$25 million dollars in tax credits may be authorized in a given calendar year as set out in the bill.

Rural funds must use capital investments made by investors to make qualified investments in eligible businesses. An eligible business is a business that, at the time of the qualified investment, has fewer than 250 employees and has its principal business operations in the state.

The Department may recapture tax credits if the rural fund does not invest 60% of its capital investment authority in qualified investments within two years of the date of the capital investment, and 100% of its capital investment authority within three years, if the rural fund fails to maintain qualified investments equal to 90% of its capital investment authority in years three through six, if prior to exiting the program or 30 days after the sixth year, the rural fund makes a distribution or payment that results in the fund having less than 100% of its capital investment authority invested in qualified investments, or if the rural fund violates provisions of the bill.

Rural funds must submit annual reports to the Department, including the name and location of each eligible business receiving a qualified investment, the number of jobs created and jobs retained as a result of qualified investments, the average salary of such jobs, and any other information required by the Department, all as detailed in the bill.

At any time after the sixth anniversary of the capital investment, a rural fund may apply to the Department to exit the program. The Department must respond to such application within 30 days. If the exit application is denied, the Department's notice shall include the reasons for its decision. A rural fund shall be subject to penalties for not meeting projected job creation metrics as indicated in the bill. The provisions of the new program automatically sunset six years after the effective date of the bill.

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

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Department of Labor and Industrial Relations
Office of the Secretary of State
Missouri Department of Agriculture
Department of Economic Development

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Department of Commerce and Insurance

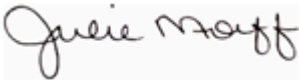
Department of Higher Education and Workforce Development

Missouri Department of Agriculture

City of Kansas City

City of Springfield

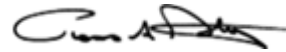
City of O'Fallon



Julie Morff

Director

March 27, 2023



Ross Strobe

Assistant Director

March 27, 2023