

HCS SB 47 -- FEES COLLECTED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF REVENUE

SPONSOR: Gannon

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Special Committee on Tax Reform by a vote of 11 to 0. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules- Legislative Oversight by a vote of 10 to 0.

The following is a summary of the House Committee Substitute for SB 47.

This bill modifies provisions relating to fees charged by state agencies.

LICENSE OFFICES AND FEES (Section 136.055)

The bill increases the fess allowed to be collected by a license fee office:

- (1) Each motor vehicle or trailer registration issued, renewed, or transferred, from \$6 to \$9 and from \$12 to \$18 for those licenses sold or biennially renewed;
- (2) Each application or transfer of title, increases from \$6 to \$9;
- (3) Each instruction permit, nondriver license, chauffeur's, operator's or driver's license issued for a period of three years or less, increases from \$6 to \$9 and from \$12 to \$18 for licenses or instruction permits issued or renewed for a period exceeding three years;
- (4) Each notice of lien processed, increases from \$6 to \$9.

This bill prohibits the Director of Revenue from awarding any fee office contract to any entity affiliated in any manner, including owning or serving as an officer or board member of the fee office, with a current employee of the Department of Revenue (DOR) for the one-year period following the employee's termination with the Department.

Currently, all fees collected by a tax-exempt organization may be retained and used by the organization and all fees are required to be collected by all permanent, full-time or temporary office maintained by the DOR. This bill allows all fees authorized under this section and collected by a contract fee office to be retained and used by the entity operating the office, and requires the fees

collected by a fee office operated by the DOR to be considered state revenue.

The fees authorized under this section may be collected by all contract fee offices and must be collected by all full-time or temporary offices operated by the DOR.

This bill creates the "License Office Distribution Fund" by requiring \$1 of each fee authorized by these provisions and collected by a fee office not operated by the DOR to be remitted to the fund. No later than February 15, 2025, quarterly disbursement shall be made to the fee offices as specified in the bill.

#### BIRTH CERTIFICATE FEE (Section 193.265)

The bill allows a one time fee waiver for obtaining birth certificate if the person is a victim of domestic violence or abuse and provides written documentation verifying the abuse, as specified in the bill.

#### HOMELESS CHILD OR YOUTH (Section 136.055, 302.178, and 302.181)

The bill exempts homeless children, homeless youths, and unaccompanied youths from certain fees collected by Department of Revenue fee offices.

A minor's status as a homeless child, homeless youth, or unaccompanied youth shall be verified by a letter signed by a director or designee of a governmental or nonprofit agency providing services to homeless persons, by a local education agency liaison as described under federal law, by a school social worker or counselor, or by an attorney who is representing the minor in a legal matter.

This bill adds a homeless child or homeless youth to the definition of "emancipated minor" for purposes of proving the supervised driving experience required to obtain an intermediate driver's license, and exempts emancipated minors from intermediate driver's license fees.

The bill provides that no fee shall be required or collected from a homeless child, homeless youth, or unaccompanied youth to obtain his or her first nondriver identification card.

This bill is similar to SCS SB 1167; HB 2789; SCS HCS HB 2376; and HCS SS#2 SB 823 (2022).

The following is a summary of the public testimony from the committee hearing. The testimony was based on the Senate version of the bill.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that it is very difficult for poor and homeless teenagers to gain access to a viable piece of identification. If such younger citizens do not have IDs, they are unable to legally operate a motor vehicle, to gain employment, or to open a bank account. Supporters also say that possessing a legally recognized ID allows for a more stable life, especially since many of these younger citizens have experienced a rough life.

Testifying in person for the bill were Senator Gannon; FosterAdopt Connect; Catholic Charities of The Archdiocese of St. Louis; Kids Win Missouri; and National Association of Social Workers - Mo Chapter.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

Written testimony has been submitted for this bill. The full written testimony and witnesses testifying online can be found under Written Testimony on Senate Bills on the bill page on the House website.