



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 665		DATE: 4/20/2023	
COMMITTEE: Crime Prevention and Public Safety			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ADAM HAMMETT		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: adam.hammett@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 4/18/2023 4:59 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

As a volunteer firefighter for 13 years I can testify that the dues we collect are essential to keeping our doors open. We use our own vehicles to respond along side our apparatus. repairs for fire apparatus come out of our own pockets.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ALESHIA GARRISON		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: agarrison1183@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/18/2023 8:15 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I volunteer on a fire protection association in rural Douglas County. The implementation of this bill would make funding our association so much easier. We serve everyone in our area. The ones who pay, and the ones who don't. We do it because we love our community. We need the financial support in order to continue operations and have safe, necessary equipment and supplies. We don't receive dues from almost HALF of our district... yet if we get a call we go. Midnight, during church, middle of our kids programs, and while supper is on the stove. We need the same support from our government that we offer to our community. And this bill offers it by means of guaranteed finances from those we serve. I know my representative has the best interests of the rural fire protection associations at heart. I've met him and am proud that he has went to bat for us and our rural communities!



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: AMY L BUFFALOW		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: abuffalow@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2023 10:47 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

As a former volunteer firefighter and citizen, it is imperative that HB 665 pass. Rural departments only survive by membership dues and so many people do not pay theirs or think that they are included in their taxes. If rural departure going to survive and provide protection to their communities, it is critical that HB 665 passes. Please pass this bill!



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ARNIE C. "HONEST-ABE" DIENOFF-STATE PUBLIC ADVOCATE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: arniedienoff@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/20/2023 11:39 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I am in Support of this Bill and its Intension only if there is an Election Called for the Purpose of Collecting the Annual Fee by the Elected County Collector.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ARTHUR KEITH SMITH		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: keith.smith1974@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2023 6:21 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I have reviewed HB 665 - Volunteer Fire Protection Associations and I support this important legislation. It is very important for this to pass as soon as possible.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: AUTUMN BARNHART		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: autumnnicholebarnhart@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/18/2023 6:43 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I am testifying in support of this bill. Volunteer fire departments struggle to keep their doors open and equipment ready to respond to emergencies. Communities are blessed to have individuals who are willing to give up their time for responding. This bill is critical for the funding of rural Missouri fire departments to keep their equipment running so that these individuals have the equipment they need to save lives and property.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: BOBBY ALLEN BELL		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: fireman_2315@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2023 10:12 AM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.
People not paying there dues and funding issues



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: BRENDA HASWELL		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: dhaswell@ymail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 4/18/2023 4:43 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

This a very important bill. As a volunteer and a person whom has family that is disabled and elderly living with them it is critical for the survival of these rural volunteer fire departments to stay open. Without them we could all suffer. So please pass this bill for our wonderful Rural Fire Departments so they can get the support they need and not have to close their doors and I can take a little pressure off my plate.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: BRIAN DAVIDSON		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: badavidson@hotmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/18/2023 3:51 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I am in support of this bill, because volunteer fire departments do not collect a sales taxes and so we have to rely upon members to pay their dues



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: CALVIN R. SPURRRIER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: cal.spurrier@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2023 9:56 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

'We have many new people in our community who are used to having fire department coverage through their taxes. They are not used to having to pay membership dues separately to obtain coverage, and so the rural departments do not receive the financial support needed to keep equipment on the service line. This proposed action would make it so much easier to keep the finances available!'"People crowding into MO from all over, demanding services, resulting in higher taxes for everybody.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: CAROLYN J. DAVIDSON		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: JJinOzarks@aol.com		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/18/2023 4:12 PM
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This will help all volunteer fire departments in Missouri.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: CHARLES PEAK		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: cspeak@mail.com	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 4/18/2023 10:30 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

Money is tight for volunteer Fire departments. Not everyone is the district pays their annual dues. Then when we respond and bill them they refuse to pay We have to get an attorney and file a legal action. All this cost the department more money.I am in favor of this bill without anything attached to it or amended.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: CHERYL SCHLOTTACH		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: semack99@hotmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2023 1:48 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

We collect right under 80% of our membership dues. Some people just do not pay and support our local volunteer fire department. This could help bring us closer to 100% collection and cover properties we may not have in our association database.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: CHRIS MEREDITH		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: mmc2974@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/18/2023 3:03 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

We are very small department and operate on a very small budget of less than \$30,000 per year,so it is very important for us to be able to collect as close to 100% as possible of the dues that are owed. As the state makes more mandates for us to have training this also puts a strain on our budget.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: CHRISTOPHER HAMMETT		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: bluelighter1970@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/18/2023 4:40 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

This bill is essential in the survival of the small rural fire departments. We are seeing fire department after fire department close leaving people with inadequate fire protection. This bill will ensure all property owner are aware of fire department dues and will allow them to decline to pay if the so wish



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: CRAIG MIERKOWSKI		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: cmierkowskitavfd@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2023 9:42 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

A very real need for many VFDs to continue to serve



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: CURT MAJORS		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: curt@cmvlimited.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2023 12:52 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

as the fire chief of a very rural fire department, I support house bill 665. Funding is a giant barrier to the success of fire departments in rural Missouri. In our county alone, two departments have closed in the last two years due to a lack of funding. We are destined for failure if we continue down the call path we are on. The fire departments provide a critical service to our communities and it's time that they are funded adequately.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: DALTON PEOPLES		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: d.peoples1329@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/18/2023 7:33 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

Hello, my name is Dalton Peoples and I'm a Volunteer Firefighter/Emergency Medical Responder, I've been with my department for nearly 3 years now. I am in support of HB665. The purpose of this bill would be for all property owners to pay for fire protection on all owned property within each fire district. This bill would allow not only a few people to pay their part but instead all people inside of our district to pay their share. Volunteer fire departments within the great state of Missouri have struggled for years with yearly expense of keeping a volunteer department running, some of the points I will bring up will be the main things a department has to worry about with the current situation. Fire apparatus insurance, building insurance, workers compensation, outdated gear and equipment, regular up keeping of fire apparatus, and fuel costs. I would like to see this bill pass so us little rural fire departments can serve our community better and at a higher standard. Thank you for your time. Firefighter Dalton Peoples Caulfield Membership Fire Department.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: DANA CRAFT		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: dana.craft36@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2023 7:53 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

As a member of a tax base district, this move would be great support for the volunteer fire district to ensure they're guaranteed their income and lessen the hassle of having to collect their membership dues. Also as a volunteer firefighter on a membership-based department, the same views apply. we're not guaranteed income and it cost us income to gather those dues.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: DANIEL FRANKS		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: pvwc17@gmail.com		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2023 10:19 AM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

As Chief of a rural fire association our ability to provide assistance to our 96 square mile district is impaired by two primary things, personnel and funding. We have 638 parcels of land in our district and annually average 215 parcels as members meaning 1/3 of the parcels are supporting the other 2/3s and our annual revenue is \$12,000. From that we spend \$7000 for insurance \$3000 for utilities and fuel leaving only \$2000 for repairs and equipment. All of our personal protective gear (bunker gear) is over 10 years old, our only mainline pumper is a 1981 model that needs \$25,000 to \$30,000 of work on it, our brush trucks are 1985 military surplus units that need replacing. Neither of our stations have water in them so we must take our gear to a neighboring department to clean them and that leaves personnel without a set of gear if we have a call. One station is a 1960's built block garage that can only hold our two brush trucks due to it's size and it needs to be completely demolished and a new station built. Our other station holds the engine and tanker but it is only 2 bays with no room for training or storage of necessary supplies, a great amount of the supplies I keep at my house which is inconvenient for members. We have attempted twice to become tax based but the voters passed the district boundary issue but did not pass a levy for the support of the district. Without adequate funding we are unable to provide a high level of service to our resident community, critical infrastructure, automatic/mutual aid departments and citizens traveling through our district...this legislation is a step in the right direction in shoring up the funding issue for rural fire departments in our great state. Keep in mind these Volunteer Fire Personnel are required to respond to ALL EMERGENCIES AND HAZARDS risking their lives, and in many cases, are not compensated for responding and using their own resources in many ways. Many times volunteers have purchased their own protective gear which will today cost in excess of \$2,000 from head to foot. If this bill passes and the local issue passes our annual revenue will increase to approximately \$35,000 that will allow my department to plan for gear, apparatus and building projects. This is dealing with lives of citizens and the ability to get appropriate aid to them as quickly as possible by other citizens who want to take care of their community. The final questions are, how much is a life worth? How much are rural Volunteer Fire Personnel worth? They are all worth your vote in favor of this legislation. And by the way I am also an elected county official.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: DAVID KINGSOLVER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: mohuntking@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/18/2023 8:51 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

My name is David Kingsolver. I am a firefighter for Caulfield Membership Fire Department and current board president. I am writing in support of this bill because I see the struggles from both sides of the fire department. I see the needs that we face as firefighters needing equipment and training. On the administration side I see the need to stretch available funds to the most important things that we need. Unfortunately as a small community that relies on memberships, our budget only has enough funds to cover insurance, fuel and doesn't leave anything left for training and equipment. These items are left for firefighters to either pay out of their own pocket or do extensive amounts of fundraising. This bill would make a difference in our community to ensure that we can continue to serve our community. Thank you David Kingsolver Firefighter EMR Search/Rescue Board President



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: DAVINA PILAND		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: piland6@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2023 1:26 PM
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Because volunteer fire departments need funding for gear and resources that are expensive. This would also ensure all people pay their dues not just a few



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: DAWN DAVISON		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: davisonpoint@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/18/2023 4:21 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

Our rural fire departments do their best on a very limited budget. It takes a lot to run such a program and not all people pay their dues betting on they will never have a fire. This was very new to me when I moved here as was how in the world would they find us with no 911 addresses. We now finally have a 911 address (still not sure how accurate they are for finding someone) and I believe it is time for everyone to step up and help with the cost of equipment, maintenance, training and gear that is up to date and safe for the first responders.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: DEBBY COOPER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: billanddebby@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/18/2023 4:39 PM
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As a board member of a rural volunteer fire dept, giving the assessor the ability to collect will raise the participation because it makes it easier for property owners to pay at one time. It also lessens the burden of collection by volunteers with the fire dept.



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WITNESS NAME		
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:		
WITNESS NAME: DEVIN WEHMEYER		PHONE NUMBER: 417-448-7312
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: COMPTON JUNCTION FIRE DEPARTMENT		TITLE: FIRE CHIEF
ADDRESS: 15912 E INFANTRY PASS		
CITY: NEVADA		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 64772
EMAIL: devinwehmeyer@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2023 9:59 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

As a Fire Chief for my local volunteer dept. I understand and see the need for this bill to happen. My dept particularly has approx 1300 members in district. But we only receive dues from approx 350. What should be 60-70k yearly is only 20-25k yearly. This makes it harder each year to purchase equipment and PPE that is in need of update or that we have to buy new for volunteers because funds are not enough to purchase extra. Also fuel, maintenance, and replacement cost of apparatus break the bank.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 665		DATE: 4/20/2023
COMMITTEE: Crime Prevention and Public Safety		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: DICK SALGADO		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: ranchww@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2023 8:36 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

The City of Ava and Douglas County depend on all volunteer members. Anything that can help our fire department personnel or the individual departments I support.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: GORDON R WYBO		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: grwybo@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2023 3:19 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

Please pass this bill as it is very important that defines a requisition for Rural fire departments which covers the majority of the state of Missouri it's not always easy for those departments to get their dues so they can continue their operation unit is of the upmost importance for public safety as many of those departments provide not only fire protection but they also provide medical care in an emergency for the community



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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: GREG GREENWOOD		PHONE NUMBER: 573-300-0464	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: HIGHWAY K VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT INC.		TITLE: FIRE CHIEF	
ADDRESS: PO BOX 74			
CITY: DONIPHAN		STATE: MO	ZIP: 63935
EMAIL: highwaykvfd@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2023 12:44 PM	

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

My name is Greg Greenwood I am the Fire Chief of the Highway K Volunteer Fire Department in Ripley Co. Mo. The Highway K VFD is funded through voluntary dues paid by residents in our district, fundraisers and donations. The average operating budget is around \$13000. The fire department district is roughly 250 square miles of rural Ripley Co. There is approximately 1200 residents/property owners in the district. Of those about 30% pay the \$40 yearly dues. The department advertises through the local newspaper, social medial, road signs and direct mailings to encourage residents to pay the dues to help support the fire departments operations. A lot of man hours is dedicated every year in fundraising efforts so that the department can meet operation expenses. The small budget and ever increasing cost of staying in operation leaves very little for the purchase of new/upgraded equipment. The department currently operates a 2000 (model year) engine, a 1998 (model year) military surplus tanker and a 1986 (model year) military surplus brush truck. The military surplus tanker and brush truck was acquired through the MDC surplus property program. The SCBA's used by the fire fighters are hand me downs from a department in North Carolina that had gotten new SCBA's. Half of the turn out gear that issued to firefighters is older and donated by other better funded departments. Many department in the state are in the same state as Highway K VFD. Small nontax supported (dues supported) department have a hard time raising funds necessary to keep operating and are in danger of shutting down due to lack of funding. Having the option available to have dues collected by the county collector would be a great benefit to local departments. It would increase the funds available for the departments, and decrease the amount of time and energy the volunteers put in to fundraising. It would ensure that every resident/property owner in the district would be helping keep the department in operation not just a small percentage.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: GREG WATTS		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: 1zwatts8870@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/18/2023 5:14 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I am in support of HB665. The purpose of this bill would be all property owners paying for fire protection on all owned property with in each fire district. This would allow fire department to do vital upgrades is apparatus as wells life saving equipment for both the fire departments and patrons within their boundaries. Also assisting in funding much needed life saving trainings. Volunteer firefighters are dwindling at an alarming rate in the great state of Missouri and across the U.S. for the most part due to lack of funding for vital equipment upgrades. The rising cost of fuel, insurance and goods plays a great part I this as well. Most volunteer fire departments can barley cover their department's vehicle insurance and workers compensations insurance with the way dues are currently collected. This lack of funding requires volunteers to pay for trainings and equipment out of their own pocket. Most volunteer departments are kicked out of any grant opportunities because of lack of funding for matching grants. ARPA funding was not a solution in Ozark County. Critical communications upgrade was a major topic between VFD's and our commissioners. However the commissioners were more interested in county issues instead of volunteer fire departments yet volunteer fire departments are the first line of contact for emergencies man-made or mother nature caused. Thank you for your time. Greg Watts Fire Chief Bakersfield Volunteer Fire Department



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: HARRIETT VAUCHER		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: hdvaucher@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2023 12:02 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: IAN WOODWARD		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: ianwoodward24@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/18/2023 3:43 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I am a volunteer fire fighter and I support this bill as this will help us with much needed funds to help keep our community safe and support our community.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: JAN ORDOYNE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: myhighernature@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/18/2023 5:35 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

As a member of the local Volunteer Fire Department, we are barely sustaining ourselves. Our equipment is always on the verge of becoming fully inoperable!



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: JANA WYBO		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: janawybo@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/18/2023 8:02 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

This would help volunteer fire department to improve care delivery of care with improved supplies and equipment and training



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: JB DUKE	PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:	TITLE:	
ADDRESS:		
CITY:	STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: stacyduke7525@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/18/2023 5:46 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

Concerning bill HB 665, volunteer fire departments are struggling for funds to pay basic bills. For example, insurance, workman's compensation, electric and heating bills, fuel and truck maintenance, and upgrading equipment. With passage of this bill, it will help with funding for training, upgrading equipment and structure, and safety equipment for all personal. It will also prevent other fire departments from closing their doors. Any questions feel free to call me 417 293 1819. Thanks for your time. Assistant fire chief at Tecumseh Missouri



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: JEFFREY ARNOLD		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: jeffa@cityofowensville.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/20/2023 4:25 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

This would help our fire department be able to collect more dues that our citizens won't pay. It will also make property owners pay for multiple properties that they own.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: JEFFREY CLARJ		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: clarkranch1987@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/18/2023 8:18 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.
This needs to be passed it will help small towns fire department big time



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: JIMMY WOLFE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: canlup7@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2023 10:08 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I have been a volunteer firefighter for 15 years and worked for the Houston Rural Fire Department for the past two years. During this time I have come to realize that rural departments are at the mercy of those who pay or choose not to pay dues. We serve every person within our district regardless of dues status. Sometimes we charge after the fact but recovery of funds is rare. This causes us to have to use equipment that is questionable as far as safety goes and wear out of date protective gear. We are currently covering two areas that were previously covered by departments that shut down due to insufficient funding. This bill is critical for the survival of rural fire districts and public safety.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: JOHN EVANS		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: John@squiresfd.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/18/2023 8:51 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

This bill is very important for dues based fire protection associations in MO. We currently exert far too much effort trying to collect dues and even with these efforts, only a small percentage pay. Support for this bill is imperative for the survival of the small fire protection areas.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: JOHN LUBBERS		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: nolandpointresort@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/18/2023 7:57 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

With rural membership vfd's getting only about 1/3 of the area population being members, they are just very covering the expenses of the fire department. (insurance, fuel, maintance, electric, up keep of fire stations, 20 plus old equipment with no funds to upgrade, out dated SCBA'S, out dated turnouts, and declining personal. With the extra money this bill would generate a lot of these problems could be address. If this bill dose not pass these small departments may be forced to close there doors.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: JOHN STANFORD MASON		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: johnmason699@yahoo.com		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2023 10:32 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

This will highly benefit the fire departments



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WITNESS NAME		
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:		
WITNESS NAME: JONATHAN SCHMUDE		PHONE NUMBER: 417-250-9324
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: MISSION ELECTRIC		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY: AVA	STATE: MO	ZIP: 65608
EMAIL: agreaterpower8@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/18/2023 8:13 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

As a Volunteer fire fighter and business owner I think this bill (HB 665) should be approved.



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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: JUDY SHIELDS		PHONE NUMBER: 417-543-3446	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: AVA AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE		TITLE: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	
ADDRESS: PO BOX 1147			
CITY: AVA		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65608
EMAIL: judyashields@hotmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2023 8:14 AM	

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

There is a dire need for continual funding for our rural fire departments in Douglas County Missouri. All of our rural fire departments are self-funded (subscriptions, fundraising, and grants when available). These avenues are unreliable and fall way short of the funds needed to provide proper safety equipment for our dedicated volunteer firefighters. Thank you.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: KATHY S. GIFFORD		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: kcoop1213@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/18/2023 8:44 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

As the Public Information Officer of the Douglas County Volunteer Fire Department, I can personally attest to the financial challenges faced by our, and other rural Volunteer departments. We run daily operations off voluntarily paid membership dues. All of us work together to stuff envelopes once a year, to send out to ask those who reside within our coverage area to pay \$50 for the year. Not all do so. In addition, we hold community fundraising events to supplement operational costs. Funds generated barely cover company insurance, let alone equipment, and repairs. We do what we can to keep everything call ready, but that can be a financial challenge. With the passage of this bill, requested membership fees will be satisfied by an increased number of residents, on a more consistent basis, thereby easing the burden of creating new ways of generating funds. It will increase our ability to ensure volunteers have proper personal protection gear, operational equipment, and apparatus of sound maintenance; that are call ready.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: KAYLA DAVIS		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: kaylamings14@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2023 11:06 AM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

I support this bill to help the fire departments because it would help the department and community itself.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: KELLY FOWLER		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: kellypebb@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 4/18/2023 6:42 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

As a small rural firefighter first responder I support this bill. Many do not realize that we personally have to pay out of our own pockets for resources we need and use. Our communities closest ambulance is 30 miles away. Leaving me as a first responder to assess treat and take care of people during their medical emergency. I have to buy my own supplies. I have had to purchase my own siren, lightbar, drive my personal car use my own gas to be able to render aid. I, too, have had to purchase pagers and radios to receive the emergency alerts. Of course my time is not compensated and with that I am blessed to be able to give. My turnout gear for fighting fires is so out dated and old it's probably not safe. I however will not let that stop me from fighting a fire and potentially saving a life. We volunteer firefighters do this out of the goodness of our hearts but shouldn't have to pay out of our pocket for the resources we need to help save lives. I will continue to do what I do even though it costs me so much of my own hard earned money. I believe it is a calling from God.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: KHRISTIE JACQUIN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: jacquin07@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/18/2023 6:26 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		



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WITNESS NAME		
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:		
WITNESS NAME: LARRY SENYARD		PHONE NUMBER: 314-249-0139
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: URBANA RURAL FIRE DEPARTMENT		TITLE: CHIEF
ADDRESS: 26921 COUNTY ROAD 365-C		
CITY: URBANA		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 65767
EMAIL: urfd1200@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2023 7:32 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

This would be a Great improvement in our means of operations. It would stop the money being wasted trying to get our membership dues mailed out and hoping everyone pays. If we have a fire now and they are not a Dues paying member we still treat them as if they are and then try to Bill them to no avail. Even with the State Statutes we have trouble collecting and the Insurance Company's do not follow the State Statutes established for us to receive restitution.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: LISA LYNNE BARNHART		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: barnharthouse@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 4/18/2023 6:25 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

It is **CRUCIAL** that rural volunteer fire departments are able to receive adequate yearly funding to support all areas of a rural fire department organization. It is our biggest means of being able to afford operating expenses to serve the needs of our communities.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: LUKE CRONEY		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: lcroney798@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2023 8:26 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I support this because the last few years I have watched departments struggle due to lack of people paying dues



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: MARIAN WADLEY		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: mwadley@centurylink.net	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/18/2023 10:31 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

If the rural fire department dues would be collected through the property tax bills that go out every year, it would be a great financial boost to all , not just the fire departments but to the whole community. This would allow the fire departments to update, maintain all much needed equipment to handle any emergency that came their way. We do not get any monies from anywhere, except for the dues (only 35% of current residents pay), very few grants awarded, and an annual fund raising attempt. This extra money would greatly improve service to all rural residents and even assisting other rural departments when one department does not have enough of volunteers, nor equipment to do it on their own.



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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: MARK BUSHONG		PHONE NUMBER: 417-269-0302	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: MOUNTAIN GROVE RURAL VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT		TITLE: FIRE CHIEF	
ADDRESS: PO BOX 351			
CITY: MOUNTAIN GROVE		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65711
EMAIL: mgfchief1@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2023 11:58 AM	

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

I am writing this statement in support of HB 665. I have been with the Mountain Grove Rural Volunteer Fire Department since 1985. It was formed in 1980 and started with 250 members. Since it's beginning it has grown to cover 248 sq. miles and has 1100 members. Although our membership has grown we still only have 1/3 of the rural population as members. I feel this is due to people from out of area that are used the tax districts and are unaware of the fact the fire departments in our area are membership based. We advertise the need to become a member with little success due to the rise of social media and decline of newspaper sales. We attempt to reach the public with social media also with some success. State law allows for fire departments to charge for services to a non member but collecting is an expensive process if the land owner is unwilling to pay for the service. Some insurance companies will pay for the service if the property is covered by insurance, but the amount generally allowed by insurance is not enough to cover the cost of the service. Most of our calls are grass and brush fires that can last several hours. Most people do not have this covered by insurance. People expect the fire departments to respond in an emergency but do not realize that there is a cost associated with the response. The membership of the Mountain Grove Rural Fire Department has remained constant in the last 20 years of around 1000 to 1100 members. The cost of equipment to respond and effectively suppress fires has risen to the point that the financial stress to rural department has become a serious problem. Fire departments have attempted to offset costs of equipment by raising membership dues to compensate making it affordable for some persons to pay. It is also unfair to the members to provide service to non members. Then if the fire department does not respond, they are the "bad guy". This bill would solve the problems of having to worry about responding to non members, how to get paid for the service, the need to constantly advertise for membership and for persons moving into the area to be covered without finding when the incident occurs. You have some people that argue "we don't want to join and don't need the fire department to respond" and yet when an incident occurs that needs the fire department, 911 is their first call for help from the fire department that they did not want to purchase a membership from. The Mountain Grove Rural Volunteer Fire Department charges \$60.00 a year, \$5.00 month for coverage. This is up from \$35.00 a year just 2 years ago. This increase is still not enough to cover the expense of equipment for firefighting. I believe this bill will solve the problems plaguing rural memberships problems today. As time goes by and there is no assistance to rural departments in some way to keep them operating, persons in the rural area with not have fire protection and will be looking to counties and states for a solution. This bill will make it cheaper than a property tax fire district and yet will allow property owners to have the coverage they need. Thank you for the opportunity to submit my concerns for the rural fire service and the support for HB 665.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 665		DATE: 4/20/2023	
COMMITTEE: Crime Prevention and Public Safety			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: MATTHEW HAMMETT		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: Matthammett31@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 4/18/2023 4:29 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

Rural fire departments rely in members ti parking their dues. Many files dont, but still use fire department services. It is CRITICAL that this bill go through! Rural departments have apparatus that is falling apart and hand ke down gear qnd tiols. In many instances, they provide life saving medical care as ambulances are often 45 minutes away. This bill is critical to keep the doors open on the status Rural VOLUNTEER departments!



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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COMMITTEE: Crime Prevention and Public Safety		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: MATTHEW WATTS		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: olympiaruralfd@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/18/2023 6:57 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

The volunteer departments that serve the rural areas of the state constantly struggle with funding for equipment, trucks, gear. Guaranteed funding would allow us to purchase better safety gear to keep our volunteers safe and better serve our communities.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Crime Prevention and Public Safety			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: MICHAEL ROAM III		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: mroam@squiresfd.org		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/18/2023 3:05 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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COMMITTEE: Crime Prevention and Public Safety		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:		
WITNESS NAME: MICHAEL SCHIFF		PHONE NUMBER: 636-346-5777
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: RESIDENCE/SELF		TITLE: FIREFIGHTER 2/EMR
ADDRESS: RR 4 BOX 75		
CITY: SQUIRES		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 65755
EMAIL: mschiffstl@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/18/2023 7:34 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

My name is Michael Schiff and I have been with the Squires Fire Department (in Douglas county) for 7 years. When I started, I was the treasurer and at the time we had very little money in our account, barely enough to meet the basic needs of utilities and insurance. Our pumper trucks were from the 1970s and required constant maintenance. Our fire gear was decades old, with holes in the knees and elbows. If it wasn't for a few one time donations, we would not have a fire department today. Today we continue to struggle with funding. Funding for updating our apparatus, our fire gear and for training. Without some intervention, many fire departments like ours will cease to function and the community will be put at risk. The collection rate for our fire protection rate is somewhere between 50-60%. The remaining amount, which would be collected as part of this bill, would enable us to not only survive but to start building a future for our department.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Crime Prevention and Public Safety			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: MIKE MANIS		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: mmanis@centurylink.net		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2023 4:19 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

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COMMITTEE: Crime Prevention and Public Safety		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: MIKE O'DONNELL		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: odonnell@cameron.net	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2023 10:23 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I support HB665 which allows Volunteer Fire Associations to have annual membership dues for their area members collected by the County Collector as part of the annual tax statement.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Crime Prevention and Public Safety		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: NANCY HEMBROW		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: btrats@hotmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/18/2023 6:38 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

Please pass this bill. Our volunteer rural fire and rescue department is very valuable and receives zero tax dollars. They rely only on sparse association dues. Our volunteer department operates with hand me down trucks and equipment and even drive their own rigs and pay for their own gasoline. This part of our county doesn't even have a proper 911 system. Our volunteers spend hundreds of hours training each year at their own expense and often travel throughout the state to attend. Our fire department runs on a shoe string budget and often worries about how to pay necessary bills such as insurance, gasoline, repair costs, and other necessities. Without our volunteer fire department our closest emergency assistance is about 20 mile away.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Crime Prevention and Public Safety		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: NANCY WILSON		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: nwilson02@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/20/2023 7:39 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

The volunteer fire department in our area is a caring group of people who do their best to help anyone they can in the community. They have responded as quickly as they can every time I've had to call, which thankfully isn't many. They give me such piece of mind knowing they're there if I need them. Our community would be in a bad place without them. I know that at least half of our community doesn't pay the dues, which puts the VFD in a precarious place at times, but they respond to everyone as if they have paid. Passing this bill would greatly aid them and give them the ability to take care of our community better. Theodosia Volunteer Fire Department in Theodosia, Missouri is the best!



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: NICOLE HAMMETT		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: tiggertaz1992@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/18/2023 9:14 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

This bill must pass to keep rural volunteer fire departments open! They receive no tax money and rely on association dues and community fund raisers. They pay thousands of dollars to insurance, have handed me down trucks and equipment and drive their personal rigs and pay for their own gas to run calls. They not only volunteer their time and money to serve and protect, but they are required to do hundreds of hours of training each year. They use our their money to drive to these classes, sometimes hours away. Most association based rural departments are lucky to have 30% of the residents in their coverage areas actually pay dues. They are starving! Pass this bill!



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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WITNESS NAME			
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:			
WITNESS NAME: NINA CARTER		PHONE NUMBER: 417-543-3401	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: 46-50 ENTERPRISES LLC; BOLEN TRUST		TITLE: PARTNER, BUSINESS MANAGER	
ADDRESS: P.O. BOX 724			
CITY: AVA		STATE: MO	ZIP: 65608
EMAIL: 4650enterprises@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/18/2023 4:40 PM	
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

Our business is in support of collection of Rural Fire Department membership dues through the tax system. Passage of this legislation is critical to the survival of rural fire departments. Only a small percentage of community members support their local fire departments, and the resources necessary to equip and maintain these vital services are just not available under the current voluntary collection system!



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: NINA S. CARTER		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: ninacarter65@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 4/18/2023 4:26 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

I am very much in favor of collecting dues for the rural fire departments through the tax system! We have many new people in our communities who are used to having fire department coverage through their taxes in their previous places of residence. They are not used to having to pay membership dues separately to obtain coverage, often do not join a department out of ignorance of the necessity, and thus the rural departments do not receive the financial support needed to keep equipment on the service line! This proposed action would make it so much easier to keep the finances available, and would make support much more equitable!



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: PAMALA M SISNEY		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: pamalasisney@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2023 6:53 AM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

To whom it may concern, Hello my name is Pamala Sisney. I am writing this as a spouse of a volunteer firefighter, who happens to be the chief of Caulfield Membership Fire Department, as the current Board Secretary & Treasurer, and also as a citizen of a small rural community that depends on the very citizens that make up the Volunteer Fire Department. I am definitely a witness as to why this proposed bill is a huge need. I am in full support of this bill being passed. With everyone in the community paying their share to help make some great changes to every volunteer Fire department across our state. Along with that it will also make some great changes for the volunteer firefighters themselves and their families. As a wife living this life of a first responder it is full of constant worry for our loved ones. Seeing first hand how much they put into the passion of helping & serving their communities for free. Often times they are paying to do the selfless job that they volunteer to do. Blood, sweat, and tears is a saying that is definitely true along with thousands of dollars towards training, required personal protective equipment, fuel in their vehicles, and much more. The list could go on for days! As a Secretary/Treasurer of a small volunteer department. I see first hand from the admin side, our department has a very small operating budget of \$5,000.00 annually. Our insurance for our equipment an building runs \$ 5,000.00 to \$6,000.00 per year, and workman's comp insurance takes another huge portion around \$1,700.00 per year.. which we maintain to try to keep those protected that serve. We do as many fundraisers as possible to try to help offset the other expenses, but let's face it. Every volunteer Fire department around is doing the same thing, to try to meet the demands of the ever growing list of expenses just to keep the doors open. Many times we have to sacrifice needs such as maintenance, training, gear, or even utility bills just to be able to remain in service. Our annual mailing of invoices for memberships cost us a lot to mail out with around a 75% rate of actually receiving all them back paid. Another thing there has been so many people move into our area that do not join as a member either because they do not know or don't understand how a membership department works. We have utilized a website, started collecting payments online, have advertised everything we do through Facebook and have tried to be as open to the public as possible to help get this information out to everyone. Many times I have been told " we did not know, our realtor didn't say anything ". I have out reached with a point of contact to try to help improve this also. Caulfield is very humble and proud that we have received a grant for a new Fire Department that is currently being built, we are very fortunate and excited. However with this new bill the possibilities to be able to provide our community with even more firefighters, better gear, more training and to keep doing it for many years to come without so much added stress and struggle. As a citizen of Caulfield, MO When a troubled time comes in life you dial 911, in hopes and thoughts that someone will rush to your doorstep to assist you in your time of need...Who are those people?! Do you know them? Do you know anything about their lives? I encourage you to reach out to every volunteer firefighter in this state and get to know some of them. I promise you will not find better hearts or people among them, who will in the blink of eye, leave their

families to rush to you to help with whatever emergency it is your having... After work, in the middle of dinner, in the middle of the night & they're paying their own money to be able to do it!!! I for one am a very thankful person for our First Responders/Firefighters and I think it's time they & their departments start getting back some of what they put in!!! Yours Truly,Pamala SisneyChief's Wife 1401ABoard Secretary/Treasurer Concerned Citizen



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: PAUL DAVIDSIN		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: pdsjeep@aol.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/18/2023 3:50 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I strongly support this bill. It will be a huge benefit to ALL Rural Fire Departments in the great state of Missouri. Thank you.



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TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: RICHARD J. ORDOYNE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: oper8rrick@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/18/2023 6:37 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ROBBIE ALLEN SMITH		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: rsmith@houstonmo.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2023 9:43 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

As an assistant chief of Houston Rural Fire Association this bill is critical for the survival of our association along with all other rural associations and departments in Missouri. On average, about half of our members, residing inside our association boundaries, pay their annual dues. These dues allow us to pay for apparatus insurance, fire station insurance, workman's compensation, fuel for the apparatus, propane to heat our station, and repairs to keep our apparatus operating. We continue to witness a decline annually in membership dues being paid voluntarily. If this trend continues, it will have a critical impact on our ability to respond to emergencies and assist our Missouri citizens. In speaking to other fire chiefs in our county and bordering counties, all are stating the same. "If something isn't done, more rural departments and associations will be forced to close their doors." This has already occurred here in our county, Huggins Fire Department, permanently closed, and now our association along with Roby are struggling to provide protection and safety for these citizens.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ROBBY STILL		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: robby.still@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/20/2023 9:36 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

This would help our association greatly! I spend many hours each year as treasurer, sending out first notification, second notification, final notification to maintain our membership roll. I also have to get with the count assessor to find out land transactions so I can contact new property owners. This take an enormous amount of volunteer time.I support any effort to help our association collect its membership money. Thank you.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ROBERT E PEAT		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: robertpeat1761@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2023 7:00 AM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

This will benefit every rural fire department in the state. As a volunteer fire fighter, the biggest struggle we have is financial support.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ROBERT MALONE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: robertmalone22@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/18/2023 7:34 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

My name is Robert Malone. I am the training officer for Caulfield Fire Department in Caulfield, MO. I support this bill. For far too long we have endured dwindling volunteer numbers and lack of critical gear and training to retain good men and women. With calls increasing year after year and the budgets decreasing because of non payment from residents. This puts the departments in a dilemma. With fuel, insurance, maintenance, and workman's comp. Taking all of our yearly budget in a short amount of time. It leaves us stranded paying for most of these expenses out of our pockets because we don't have 100 percent payment participation. This in my mind is long overdue for the Great state of Missouri. Not only will you benefit the citizens. You will also be saving these fire depts from closing their doors. When you dial 911 for an emergency because your house is on fire and no one shows up. With this bill it will not only save a life. It will provide that someone shows up each and every time you need help. Thank you for listening LT. Robert Malone Caulfield Fire Dept.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ROBERT TAYLOR		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: rttaylor8908@hotmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/18/2023 9:05 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

My name is Robert Taylor. I am a firefighter/EMR for Caulfield Membership Fire Department and current safety officer. I am writing in support of this bill because I see the needs that we face as firefighters needing equipment and training. On the administration side I see the need to train, recruit, and retain firefighters. This bill would make a difference in our community to ensure that we can continue to serve others. Our department operates on a very small budget from memberships. Of the houses inside our district, not everyone pays the yearly dues. We are unable to recruit or retain more fire fighters due to insurance costs. This short fall on the budget has to be compensated for by fundraisers, and sometimes even the fire fighters themselves chipping in to make ends meet. Operating on such a short budget doesn't allow us opportunities for vehicle maintenance or training. This in turn endangers our fire fighters due to lack of proper training, and possible vehicle failures. Thank you Robert Taylor Lieutenant / Safety Officer Caulfield Membership Fire Department



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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WITNESS NAME		
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:		
WITNESS NAME: RODNEY RICHARDSON		PHONE NUMBER: 417-989-0892
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: CANEY MOUNTAIN VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT		TITLE: ASSISTANT CHIEF
ADDRESS: 698 STATE HIGHWAY 181		
CITY: GAINESVILLE		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 65655
EMAIL: richardsonro67@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2023 9:38 AM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

I firmly believe that volunteer departments should be compensated and shouldn't have to worry about where the money is going to come from for repairs on the trucks we definitely need more help then what we are getting now



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 665		DATE: 4/20/2023	
COMMITTEE: Crime Prevention and Public Safety			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: RORY EDWARD LIDDICOAT		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: roryliddicoat@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/18/2023 5:16 PM	

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

Being in the volunteer fire department this would really help the department stay open and help keep the equipment in good standing



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Crime Prevention and Public Safety		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ROY CROUCH		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: pam.roy@aol.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/18/2023 10:12 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I believe this HB665 will be a huge support for our rural volunteer fire department and will save us hundreds of dollars by not having to send out letters.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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COMMITTEE: Crime Prevention and Public Safety		
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: SARAH DELUNA		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: sarah.deluna@icloud.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/18/2023 6:36 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

I think volunteer fire departments are a huge part of our community and deserve all the help they can get for funding considering they are coming to save lives of people they have never met much less doing it for FREE!! They deserve to be able to get new equip and training without it coming out of their own pockets. The majority of volunteer fire fighters/emrs have full Time jobs on top of running calls and being there for people on their free time. I think the lease we could do is make sure they are being paid enough to cover expenses!



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: SHANNON SISNEY		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:	STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: ssisney@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/18/2023 6:19 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

Hello, I am the fire chief of a small membership fire department and have been for just over 5 years now. We have struggled for way too long with no support and barely enough money to last one quarter of the year much less the whole year. I am in support of HB665. The purpose of this bill would be for all property owners to pay for fire protection on all owned property within each fire district. This bill would allow not only a few people to pay their part but instead all people inside of our district to pay their share. This would allow the fire department to do vital upgrades of apparatus as well as much needed maintenance to this equipment. This would also allow for departments to get lifesaving equipment for both the fire departments as well as for the patrons within their boundaries. Also assisting in funding much needed lifesaving and needed training. Volunteer firefighters are dwindling at an alarming rate in the great state of Missouri and across the U.S. for the most part due to lack of funding for vital equipment upgrades. Would you want to go into a house that is burning in bunker gear that expired 15 years ago? Well as you just answered no, the men and women that are doing this for free also feels this way. The rising cost of fuel, insurance and goods plays a great part of this as well. Most volunteer fire departments can barely cover their department's vehicle insurance and workers compensations insurance with the way dues are currently collected. An example would be that we have a yearly budget of around \$5,000. Our vehicle and building insurance is \$5,000 to \$6,000 a year and our workers compensation insurance is around \$1,700 a year. This is already \$1,000 plus over our budget. We fund raise when we are able too but what we don't raise there we pay out of our own pockets. This lack of funding requires volunteers to pay for training and equipment out of their own pocket. Most volunteer departments are kicked out of any grant opportunities because of lack of funding for matching grants. Critical communications upgrade was a major topic between VFD's and the Ozark County commissioners. However, the commissioners were more interested in county issues instead of volunteer fire departments yet volunteer fire departments are the first line of contact for emergencies man-made or mother nature caused. If this isn't passed, then in the very near future you will see volunteer fire departments closing. Think about this, in 1985 there were somewhere around 885,000 volunteer fire fighters, today there are under 680,000. Our calls have gone up 10 times in this time, we have increased calls two times in the past 2 years. What happens when we aren't here to answer those calls? This is not a want this is a have too decision to keep volunteer fire departments open and able to answer these calls, please consider this carefully because you are making the decision to keep us around or allowing us to fall the way side and having to close the doors for good. Thank you for your careful thought on this. Chief Shannon SisneyCaulfield Membership Fire Department.



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: SHEILA MASON		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: sheilamason13sm@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2023 10:27 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

This would help fire departments so much, for fuel, repairs and equipment.



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TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES		
WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: SHIRLEY WILLIAMS		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: calicurves209@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2023 10:52 AM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

this would help fire departments collect more money to help with their there doors open and up with maintenance on their equipment to better service the community



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TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: STEPHANIE WOODWARD		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: stephanienianwoodward34@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 4/18/2023 4:27 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

This will help our firefighters help our community by supporting them.



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TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: THERESA MCFALLS		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: Cowboy1863@reagan.com	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2023 7:13 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.			

Collecting dues through taxes may be the best way for everyone to pay. As it is currently, there is no penalty for not paying them. And unfortunately, some people will not just do the right thing.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: TRACY MEAL		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: tracy.meal@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2023 9:15 AM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

As a former volunteer firefighter and currently employed EMT, I can attest that financial support for our rural fire departments is desperately needed. Most rural areas have little to no financial means to provide this essential public service. What happens when no one shows up to a rural fire?



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: TRAVIS VELDKAMP		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: travis@squiresfd.org	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/18/2023 9:51 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

This bill is very important for the survival of dues based fire protection associations in MO. Keeping up with membership and sending dues letters is a huge undertaking and large expense for small departments. Most departments are only able to get a relatively small percentage of dues paying members, which creates severe budget issues. In a growth area, such as Douglas county, educating new residents about how fire protection associations work is nearly a full time job. The changes proposed by this bill would go a long way toward improving the situation.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: WALTER HOWARD WELLS		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: Wells.sbt@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/19/2023 1:59 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

As a member of a volunteer fire department in Ripley County, this would be a great benefit. We struggle to get 30% of land owners to pay their dues



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: WILL DOBBS		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: billdobbs@icloud.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/20/2023 6:28 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I'm the chief of a small rural fire department. We are funded strictly by membership dues. If everyone in our district pays their dues it will benefit us financially so we are better equipped to serve them



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: WILLIAM GARRISON		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: wgtree83@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/18/2023 8:25 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I am on Squires Volunteer Fire Department. We have went above and beyond to get grants and get donations and dues from our members. We still lack much of what we need due to lack of funds. This bill could be a game changer for many departments like ours. We all Volunteer and love our communities and the people we serve and serve with. We train hard for days we pray never come and we need the support of the House to back us gain funding from our members.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: ZAYLOR WATTS		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: 1gwatts10472@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 4/18/2023 5:04 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I am in support of HB665. The purpose of this bill would be all property owners paying for fire protection on all owned property with in each fire district. This would allow fire department to do vital upgrades is apparatus as wells life saving equipment for both the fire departments and patrons within their boundaries. Also assisting in funding much needed life saving trainings. Volunteer firefighters are dwindling at an alarming rate in the great state of Missouri and across the U.S. for the most part due to lack of funding for vital equipment upgrades. The rising cost of fuel, insurance and goods plays a great part I this as well. Most volunteer fire departments can barley cover their department's vehicle insurance and workers compensations insurance with the way dues are currently collected. This lack of funding requires volunteers to pay for trainings and equipment out of their own pockets.