

HCS SB 1039 -- BUSINESS INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT

SPONSOR: Roberts (Taylor)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Special Committee on Innovation and Technology by a vote of 6 to 0. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules- Legislative Oversight by a vote of 9 to 0.

The following is a summary of the House Committee Substitute for SB 1039.

This bill modifies the law relating to business infrastructure development.

GEOSPATIAL ADVISORY COUNCIL (Sections 37.1300 and 37.1320)

This bill establishes the "Missouri Geospatial Advisory Council", within the Office of Administration charged with advising the State in ensuring the availability, implementation, and enhancement of a statewide geospatial data infrastructure. The council shall consist of 34 members, the makeup of which is provided in the bill. Additional subject matter experts may participate in activities as non-council members. Members of the council shall serve three-year terms without compensation.

REIMBURSEMENT OF COSTS WITH UTILITY FACILITY RELOCATION (Sections 71.340, 226.220, and 226.224)

This bill requires municipalities and the Missouri Department of Transportation to reimburse nonrate regulated utility providers, including telecommunications, Internet, and cable providers, for facility relocation due to road maintenance or construction.

TAX DEDUCTION FOR BROADBAND GRANT FUNDS (Section 143.121)

Currently, a taxpayer may deduct from State income tax 100% of any Federal grant money received for the purpose of providing or expanding access to broadband Internet to areas of the State that lack access. This bill expands the deduction to included State or local grant money and limits the deduction only to money dispersed for this express purpose.

STEM CAREER AWARENESS ACTIVITY PROGRAM (Section 161.264)

This bill requires the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) to establish the "STEM Career Awareness Activity Program" for grades 9 through 12. Beginning in the 2025-26 school year DESE may solicit proposals to provide the Program and by March

1, 2025, shall select a provider. The bill outlines requirements for providers who must present data demonstrating effectiveness in the following areas: teacher instruction on STEM-related subjects; increased student enrollment in four year STEM related fields; or increased participation in STEM related workforce upon graduation.

The bill outlines criteria for program providers, authorizes DESE to choose a third party nonprofit entity to implement the Program, solicit proposals, and select a provider.

This bill also creates the "STEM Career Awareness Activity Fund".

SMALL WIRELESS FACILITIES (Repeal of 67.5122)

Currently, the Small Wireless Facility Deployment Act expires on January, 1, 2025. This bill repeals the expiration date for the Act.

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

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that this bill codifies the current volunteer GIS Advisory Board and provides authority to seek grants and other funding. This Council would provide a single entity in state government for GIS and other geospatial data and would reduce overlapping duties of various state departments. GIS and geospatial data are important in times of emergency response.

Testifying in person for the bill were Senator Roberts; Greater St Louis Inc; Missouri Chamber of Commerce and Industry; Mo 911 Service Board; Mo 911 Director's Association; Mo Chapter of the National Emergency Number Association; and Mo-Apco.

OPPONENTS: 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 Testimony on the bill page on the House website.