



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 1517		DATE: 1/23/2024
COMMITTEE: Special Committee on Tax Reform		
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: ARNIE C. "HONEST-ABE" DIENOFF-STATE PUBLIC ADVOCATE		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: arniedienoff@yahoo.com	ATTENDANCE: In-Person	SUBMIT DATE: 1/23/2024 11:42 PM
THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.		

I am in Support of this Bill and its Intent. The Bill should have gone to the House Elections and Elected Officials Committee. Let's move this Legislation, get it over to the State Senate and onto the Governor's Desk by April 1st.



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WITNESS NAME		
INDIVIDUAL:		
WITNESS NAME: KATHY D'AGOSTINO		PHONE NUMBER:
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:
ADDRESS:		
CITY:		STATE: ZIP:
EMAIL: kldago57@gmail.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/14/2024 7:00 AM
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House Bill HB1517 to protect our citizens and close these loopholes. In addition, I would like you to go after the Mehlville School District for its unlawful behavior. They are stealing the hard earned money from it's tax payers. They have frauded the citizens supporting it. You have to make an example so this is not allowed to happen again. Also, the people need to be reimubursed for this. Thank you.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: SARA E WILKE		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: efolluo@yahoo.com		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/13/2024 8:10 PM

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In the spring of 2023, Mehlville School District had a tax levy on the ballot, Prop E, which my family supported, to increase our tax rate by 31 cents per \$100 of assessed valuation. Prop E passed by a large majority. Later that spring, the county released its assessed valuation, with a record-setting 17.8% increase (on average) in residential value. Normally, the Hancock amendment provides that a school district can increase its tax rate by no more than 5% (or the CPI, whichever is less.) However, due to the language that Rep. Murphy is correcting with HB 1517, the school district was allowed to increase the tax rate by the entire 17.8% because it was a ballot year. For my house in particular, it was actually a 20% in assessed valuation. Mehlville School District had a Prop E calculator on its website, which showed that my real estate tax would increase by \$227 if the tax levy passed. However, the portion of my real estate taxes for the school district actually increased by more than twice that amount. This is not a one time increase. This is a permanent tax levy, so this increase will be with us forever, barring a devaluation of property. Other school districts were required to roll back their tax rates in 2023 per the Hancock Amendment. However, because it was a ballot year, Mehlville did not have to roll back due to the language in the current bill. They could have voluntarily rolled back, as other districts have done in past ballot years, but they did not. The district originally expected to receive \$11.4M due to Prop E, but instead they are receiving an extra \$10.8M on top of that, because of the language in the statute that Rep. Murphy is correcting with HB 1517. Please support HB 1517 to make sure that the will of the voters is respected.



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WITNESS NAME		
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION:		
WITNESS NAME: RICHARD SHEETS		PHONE NUMBER: 573-418-5270
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME: MISSOURI MUNICIPAL LEAGUE		TITLE: EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
ADDRESS: 5210 RT D		
CITY: JEFFERSON CITY		STATE: MO
		ZIP: 65109
EMAIL: rsheets@mocities.com	ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 1/23/2024 9:41 AM

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Section 137.067 in HB 1517 would be extremely difficult to implement and would make the ballot language very difficult for voters to understand. This provision would make the ballot very long.