

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

FISCAL NOTE

L.R. No.: 0476H.01I
 Bill No.: HB 70
 Subject: Emergencies; Waste - Solid; Motor Carriers
 Type: Original
 Date: February 19, 2025

Bill Summary: Modifies provisions relating to certain fees collected by the missouri emergency response commission.

FISCAL SUMMARY

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028
Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028
Chemical Emergency Preparedness	\$834,508	\$1,001,410	\$1,001,410
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>Other</u> State Funds	\$834,508	\$1,001,410	\$1,001,410

Numbers within parentheses: () indicate costs or losses.

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FULL TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE)			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028
Total Estimated Net Effect on FTE	0	0	0

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

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028
Local Government	\$0	\$0	\$0

FISCAL ANALYSIS

ASSUMPTION

§292.606 – Fees paid to the Missouri Emergency Response Commission

Officials from the **Department of Public Safety (DPS) – State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA)** state that currently, authorization for the collection of fees for hazardous chemicals in the workplace, which funds the Missouri Emergency Response Commission (MERC), was not reauthorized under HB 1870 (2024) and was allowed to expire on August 28, 2024. HB 1870 (2024) would have extended the authorization for six years to August 28, 2030.

The mission of the MERC is to protect public health and the environment by assisting communities with chemical incident prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery; and by receiving, processing, and reporting on chemical information under the community right-to-know laws. The program has been in existence since the late 1980s and has provided training and assistance to local communities to be compliant with the federal EPCRA laws.

Current law allowed for the collection of data and fees. In fiscal year 2023, the amount collected was approximately \$1,001,410 with \$598,495 of this fund being redistributed to the locals, \$92,076 distributed to the Missouri Division of Fire Safety for hazardous materials training and the remaining \$230,190 was retained by the MERC to operate the program and to provide a match for federal funds that allow additional hazardous materials planning and training for local first responders. The chemical storage facility owners and gas station owners must pay an annual fee based on the type and amount of chemicals they store at their facility.

Since HB 1870 was not reauthorized, the Local Emergency Planning Committees and/or Districts will lose approximately \$650,000 in eligible funds. In many communities, these were the only funds available to remain compliant with federal law and most preparedness activities will no longer continue. Approximately \$80,000 in training money to the Missouri Division of Fire Safety will also be lost, and the match for the \$400,000 dollars for the Missouri Department of Transportation grant will not be met. Without this grant, approximately 1,000 first responders will not receive any hazmat preparedness or response training.

Oversight has no information to the contrary. Therefore, Oversight will present the fiscal impact of this proposal as revenue coming into the Chemical Emergency Preparedness Fund of \$834,508 in FY 2026 and \$1,001,410 in FY 2027 and subsequent years.

Oversight notes the Chemical Emergency Preparedness Fund (0587) had a fund balance of \$698,599 on December 31, 2024.

Officials from the **Department of Commerce and Insurance**, the **Department of Economic Development**, the **Department of Health and Senior Services**, the **Department of Natural Resources**, the **Department of Public Safety (DPS)**, **Divisions of: Fire Safety** and the **Director’s Office**, the **Office of the Governor**, the **Phelps County Sheriff**, the **Kansas City Police Department**, the **St. Louis County Police Department** and the **Fruitland Area Fire Protection District** each assume the proposal will have no fiscal impact on their respective organizations. **Oversight** does not have any information to the contrary. Therefore, Oversight will reflect a zero impact in the fiscal note for these agencies.

Oversight only reflects the responses received from state agencies and political subdivisions; however, cities, various county officials, and other sheriffs, police and fire protection districts were requested to respond to this proposed legislation but did not. A listing of political subdivisions included in the Missouri Legislative Information System (MOLIS) database is available upon request.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT – State Government</u>	FY 2026 (10 Mo.)	FY 2027	FY 2028
CHEMICAL EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS FUND (0587)			
<u>Income</u> – SEMA (§292.606) – renewal of annual fees	\$834,508	\$1,001,410	\$1,001,410
ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON THE CHEMICAL EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS FUND	\$834,508	\$1,001,410	\$1,001,410

<u>FISCAL IMPACT – Local Government</u>	FY 2026 (10 Mo.)	FY 2027	FY 2028
	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>

FISCAL IMPACT – Small Business

No direct fiscal impact to small businesses would be expected as a result of this proposal.

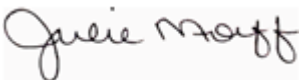
FISCAL DESCRIPTION

This bill extends the authority of the Missouri Emergency Response Commission to collect fees from August 28, 2024, to August 28, 2031.

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

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Department of Commerce and Insurance
Department of Economic Development
Department of Health and Senior Services
Department of Natural Resources
Department of Public Safety –
 Fire Safety
 Director's Office
 State Emergency Management Agency
Phelps County Sheriff
Kansas City Police Department
St. Louis County Police Department
Fruitland Area Fire Protection District



Julie Morff
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February 19, 2025



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February 19, 2025