

HCS HB 653 -- SALES TAX EXEMPTION

SPONSOR: McGirl

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Standing Committee on Ways and Means by a vote of 8 to 0.

The following is a summary of the House Committee Substitute for HB 653.

This bill includes the purchases of vehicles that are unusable as a whole in the meaning of "part" in a certain subdivision of the bill.

Current law provides a sales tax exemption for certain durable medical equipment as defined on January 1, 1980, by the Federal Medicare program. This bill removes the reference to January 1, 1980.

Additionally, current law provides a sales tax exemption for the sales or rental of manual and powered wheelchairs, including parts. The bill also applies the exemption to accessories for such wheelchairs.

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 alleviates the sales tax on medical equipment. Proponents state that durable medical equipment was defined decades ago, and there have been many updates and innovations for medical equipment since then. As such, this bill brings those sales tax exemptions to the additional durable medical equipment. Supporters say that this bill benefits patients. Some durable medical equipment is used to extend the lives of patients who are terminally ill with brain cancer. This bill will ensure those types of devices and equipment are exempt from sales taxes.

Testifying in person for the bill were Representative McGirl; Zachary Wyatt, Department of Revenue; Associated Industries of Missouri.

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.