

HCS HB 895 -- SALES TAXES FOR AMBULANCE OR FIRE PROTECTION
DISTRICTS

SPONSOR: Knight

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Standing
Committee on Local Government by a vote of 15 to 1.

The following is a summary of the House Committee Substitute for HB
895.

Current law authorizes ambulance and fire protection districts in
certain counties to propose a sales tax at a rate of up to 0.5%.
This bill increases that authorization to a rate of up to 1%.

This bill is similar to SB 270 (2025).

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 a 0.5% sales tax doesn't generate
enough funds to provide necessary services in some places. Any
authorization would still require a vote of the district in order
to take effect.

Testifying in person for the bill were Representative Knight;
Ambulance District Association of MO; Missouri Association of
Career Fire Protection Districts; and Missouri Ambulance Districts.

OPPONENTS: Those who oppose the bill say that districts need to
tighten their budgets and make do with a 0.5% sales tax.

Testifying in person against the bill was Arnie C. Dienoff.

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.