HB 2898 -- UNPAID TAXES AND FEES

SPONSOR: Owen

Currently, under Section 140.982, RSMo, if a county establishes a
land bank agency the members of the first board of directors must
be appointed within 90 days, and if an appointing authority does
not make a required appointment on time, the appointment will be
made by the county council. The land bank agency board of
directors will consist of a seven-member board, including:

(1) Two appointments divided among the county executive,
including one with relevant professional expertise;

(2) Two county council members representing the districts with
the highest and second-highest number of tax-delinquent parcels,
one member from each parcel;

(3) One member appointed by consensus of the county executive
and the president of the county municipal league; and

(4) Two resident representatives chosen by a majority vote of
the other board members who reside in certain high-delinquency
municipalities.

Current law also provides that if an appointing authority fails
to fill a vacancy within 60 days after a term expires, the county
council will make the appointment.

This bill modifies how the county land bank board is appointed.
Under the provisions of this bill, the seven-member board will be
appointed by the county executive, who shall be required to fill
any vacancy within sixty days.

Currently, a county that elects to operate under alternative
delinquent sale tax provisions may only include parcels with
unpaid taxes that have been delinquent for at least two years.
This bill removes the two-year delinquency requirement, allowing
counties that opt into the alternative process to include
delinquent parcels regardless of how long the taxes have remained
unpaid.

Furthermore, land bank agencies are currently prohibited from
selling property to the original owner of the parcel or to
certain close relatives of the original owner. This bill removes
the prohibition on sales to relatives of the original owner,
while maintaining other purchaser eligibility requirements.