

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

FISCAL NOTE

L.R. No.: 0954-01
Bill No.: HB 191
Subject: Agriculture and Animals; Agriculture Dept.
Type: Original
Date: January 26, 2005

FISCAL SUMMARY

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008
Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue Fund	\$0	\$0	\$0

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>Other</u> State Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

Numbers within parentheses: () indicate costs or losses.

This fiscal note contains 4 pages.

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2006	FY 2007	FY 2008
Local Government	\$0	\$0	\$0

FISCAL ANALYSIS

ASSUMPTION

Officials with the **Department of Agriculture** and **Department of Transportation** assume no fiscal impact to their agency.

Officials with the **Department of Natural Resources** assume sericea Lespedeza is a very aggressive introduced legume that was tested and distributed by the former Soil Conservation Service for use in the 1950s. As a legume with nitrogen fixing capability it seemed like a good plant for use on degraded lands. However, it produces large quantities of seed and being an introduced exotic has no natural controls. It occurs in 90 percent of the counties of Missouri and most of our state parks. In areas where it is well established large amounts of seed have been distributed. To control its spread involves a long term annual effort to monitor and treat the areas affected.

To date we have been working to limit the seed production of Sericea Lespedeza using mechanical and chemical control methods (mowing and herbicide). Prescribed fire is a useful management tool. We have found that management using integrated techniques (fire, mechanical, and chemical) to be the most effective.

We have concentrated our efforts in a few of our most significant resource parks (e.g. Ha Ha

ASSUMPTION (continued)

Tonka, Pershing, Prairie). At Prairie State Park, we have spent roughly \$10,000 a year for Sericea Lespedeza control over the past few years. We anticipate that this level of financial commitment will be needed for the next five years. at many parks a more reasonable estimate of cost would be \$1,000 a year for 20 parks for five years. A total expenditure of \$150,000 could be plausible system wide.

$$(\$1,000 \times 5 \text{ yrs} \times 20 \text{ parks}) + (\$10,000 \times 5 \text{ yrs} \times 1 \text{ Prairie SP}) = \$150,000$$

The key to this question is how the regulation would be enforced. For other exotic species, control is a county option. It is more typical for the option to be exercised in counties where agricultural production is significant. Under this scenario the financial obligation would be less, roughly \$100,000 over 5 years.

$$(\$1,000 \times 5 \text{ yrs} \times 10 \text{ parks}) + (\$10,000 \times 5 \text{ yrs} \times 1 \text{ Prairie SP}) = \$100,000$$

An annual fiscal impact of \$20,000 - \$30,000 (\$100,000 - \$150,000 over the next five years) is a conservative cost estimate projected from what we are doing now and an understanding of where the largest current concentrations are. The Missouri state park system is composed of more than 200,000 acres in 84 state parks, historic sites and a backcountry area. If this proposal resulted in the aggressive pursuit at all locations to a goal of maximum total control, the fiscal impact could be much higher.

Oversight assumes this would be accomplished through the normal budgetary process. Therefore, Oversight assumes the initial administrative impact of this proposal is \$0.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT - State Government</u>	FY 2006 (10 Mo.)	FY 2007	FY 2008
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	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>
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<u>FISCAL IMPACT - Local Government</u>	FY 2006 (10 Mo.)	FY 2007	FY 2008
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	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>
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FISCAL IMPACT - Small Business

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

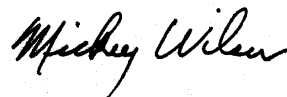
DESCRIPTION

This bill designates Sericea Lespedeza (Lespedeza cuneata) as a noxious weed and dangerous to agriculture. Entities are required to control the spread of this weed and to eradicate it by methods approved by the federal Environmental Protection Agency and in conformity with the manufacturer's label instructions.

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 Agriculture
Department of Natural Resources
Department of Transportation



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Director
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