

HCS HB 1581 -- INCOME TAX CREDIT FOR DONATIONS TO FOOD PANTRIES

SPONSOR: Bruns (Jetton)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass" by the Committee on Senior Citizen Advocacy by a vote of 11 to 0.

This substitute authorizes an income tax credit for donations of cash or food to any local food pantry. The amount of the tax credit will be equal to one-half the value of the donation and cannot exceed \$2,500 per taxpayer. The cumulative amount of the tax credit that can be issued to all taxpayers will be \$2 million per year. The Director of the Department of Revenue will establish the procedure for the allotment of the tax credits so that all eligible taxpayers will receive a share of the credits available for the fiscal year.

The provisions of the substitute will expire four years from the effective date.

FISCAL NOTE: Estimated Cost on General Revenue Fund of \$34,895 to \$2,034,895 in FY 2007, \$35,331 to \$2,035,331 in FY 2008, and \$36,218 to \$2,036,218 in FY 2009. No impact on Other State Funds in FY 2007, FY 2008, and FY 2009.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that the bill will increase donations to food pantries by individuals and businesses and help food pantries to expand their food reserves. The bill will create future savings in health care costs by improving the nutritional needs of senior citizens.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Jetton; Silver Haired Legislature; Peggy Kirkpatrick; AARP; Missouri Alliance of Area Agencies on Aging; Missouri Grocers Association; Missouri Retailers Association; Missouri Association for Community Action, Incorporated; and Erma Cunningham.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

Alex Curchin, Legislative Analyst