

SB 970 -- LOCAL GOVERNMENT ETHICS

SPONSOR: Scott (May)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass" by the Committee on Elections by a vote of 8 to 2.

Currently, elected officials, candidates for elective office, and certain other officials of political subdivisions with operating budgets over \$1 million must file financial interest statements. This bill increases the amount of the operating budget to be greater than \$2 million before these individuals are required to file the financial interest statements.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2009, FY 2010, and FY 2011.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that the bill will remove burdensome requirements for officials and candidates in small cities. The budget floor has not been adjusted in 10 years, and the requirement of filing a financial interest statement discourages many people from seeking office in small cities.

Testifying for the bill were Senator Scott; and Missouri Municipal League.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.