

HB 1244 -- Municipal Technology Business Facility Projects

Sponsor: Lauer

This bill allows the governing body of any county, city, incorporated town, or village to engage in projects involving a technology business facility used for wired telecommunications; data processing, hosting, and related services; or Internet publishing and broadcasting and web search portals. The governing body is authorized to:

- (1) Carry out technology business facility projects for economic development;
- (2) Accept grants from the federal and state governments for the project's purposes and enter into an agreement which may be required by the grantor if the agreement is not contrary to Missouri laws;
- (3) Receive gifts and donations from private sources to be used for the project's purposes; and
- (4) Enter into loan agreements and to sell, lease, or mortgage to individuals, partnerships, or corporations any one or more of the components of a technology business facility project.

Transactions involving the lease or rental of any project component must be exempted from state and local sales taxes, and leasehold interests will not be subject to property taxes.

If an individual or corporation transfers property for a project free of charge to the governing body, it will retain the right, upon a request to the municipality, to have the governing body transfer the donated property back at no cost. The authorization to engage in projects involving a technology business facility does not authorize a political subdivision to provide telecommunications services or telecommunications facilities to the extent that they are prohibited from doing so under Section 392.410, RSMo.