

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

FISCAL NOTE

L.R. No.: 2001-02
Bill No.: HCS for HB 857
Subject: Utilities; Property, Real and Personal; Taxation and Revenue - Property
Type: Original
Date: April 20, 2015

Bill Summary: This proposal authorizes telephone companies to elect to have their tangible personal property assessed in accordance with a depreciation schedule.

FISCAL SUMMARY

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018
Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018
Blind Pension	(\$76,029 to \$114,044)	(\$91,235 to \$136,853)	(\$91,235 to \$136,853)
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>Other</u> State Funds	(\$76,029 to \$114,044)	(\$91,235 to \$136,853)	(\$91,235 to \$136,853)

Numbers within parentheses: () indicate costs or losses.
This fiscal note contains 5 pages.

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FULL TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE)			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018
Total Estimated Net Effect on FTE	0	0	0

Estimated Net Effect (expenditures or reduced revenues) expected to exceed \$100,000 in any of the three fiscal years after implementation of the act.

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2016	FY 2017	FY 2018
Local Government	(\$7,691,617 to \$15,383,239)	(\$9,229,940 to \$18,459,887)	(\$9,229,940 to \$18,459,887)

FISCAL ANALYSIS

ASSUMPTION

In response to a previous version of this proposal, officials from the **County of Cole** stated that depending on the amount of depreciation allowed, this legislation could negatively impact Cole County tax collections by as much as 40% to 60% on utilities.

Officials from the **County of St. Louis** assume the current proposal would not fiscally impact their local political subdivision.

Officials from the **Office of the State Auditor** assume the current proposal would not fiscally impact their agency.

In response to a previous version of this proposal, officials from the **State Tax Commission (TAX)** stated the fiscal impact from the proposal is difficult to project with the primary impact being on the taxing districts throughout the state. Telephone Companies electing to be assessed for property other than land and buildings pursuant to Section 137.122 do not currently report this property in a manner that allows TAX to definitively project the impact of this proposal. TAX was able to acquire the necessary information utilized in Section 137.122 on 4 telephone companies operating in Missouri. The results of these calculations varied greatly ranging in a reduction of 14% to 77% in the taxable valuation of the qualifying property. The impact of this legislation will vary significantly from company to company and will be influenced by criteria such as the age of the property being valued and the percentage of the overall valuation that is attributed to Land and Buildings. Upon review of the 67 telephone companies the TAX values, their prior renditions, and afore - mentioned data, our estimates are that the overall impact to the assessed value of telephone companies will reduce by 25% to 50%.

- Total Assessed Valuation of Telephone Companies valued by TAX: **\$608,233,531**
- Current Tax Dollars Generated (based on average levy of \$6.07): **\$36,919,775**
- Projected Range of Assessed Value if proposed legislation enacted: **\$304,116,765 - \$456,175,148**
- Fiscal Impact (Potential Revenue Loss) to the taxing districts in Missouri: **\$9,229,940- \$18,459,887**

Oversight assumes there will be a negative fiscal impact to local political subdivisions based on the estimate provided by TAX. In addition, the Blind Pension Fund will lose \$.03 of every \$1.00 of assessed value lost.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT - State Government</u>	FY 2016 (10 Mo.)	FY 2017	FY 2018
BLIND PENSION FUND			
<u>Loss - Reduction of Property Tax Collections</u>	(\$76,029 to <u>\$114,044</u>)	(\$91,235 to <u>\$136,853</u>)	(\$91,235 to <u>\$136,853</u>)
ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON BLIND PENSION FUND	<u>(\$76,029 to \$114,044)</u>	<u>(\$91,235 to \$136,853)</u>	<u>(\$91,235 to \$136,853)</u>

<u>FISCAL IMPACT - Local Government</u>	FY 2016 (10 Mo.)	FY 2017	FY 2018
LOCAL POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS			
<u>Loss - Reduction of Property Tax Collections</u>	(\$7,691,617 to <u>\$15,383,239</u>)	(\$9,229,940 to <u>\$18,459,887</u>)	(\$9,229,940 to <u>\$18,459,887</u>)
ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS	<u>(\$7,691,617 to \$15,383,239)</u>	<u>(\$9,229,940 to \$18,459,887)</u>	<u>(\$9,229,940 to \$18,459,887)</u>

FISCAL IMPACT - Small Business

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

FISCAL DESCRIPTION

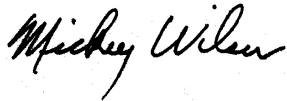
Currently, a telephone company has their tangible personal property assessed in the same manner as a railroad. This bill allows a telephone company to annually elect to have their tangible personal property assessed in accordance with depreciation schedules.

This legislation is not federally mandated, would not duplicate any other program and would not require additional capital improvements or rental space.

L.R. No. 2001-02
Bill No. HCS for HB 857
Page 5 of 5
April 20, 2015

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

State Tax Commission
Office of the State Auditor
County of Cole
County of St. Louis



Mickey Wilson, CPA
Director
April 20, 2015

Ross Strobe
Assistant Director
April 20, 2015