

HCS SB 405 -- COLLECTION OF PUBLIC FUNDS

SPONSOR: Hegeman

COMMITTEE ACTIONS: Voted "Do Pass with Amendments" by the Standing Committee on Local Government by a vote of 10 to 1. Voted "Do Pass" by the Select Committee on State and Local Governments by a vote of 9 to 0.

This bill changes laws regarding the collection of public funds. In its main provisions, the bill:

(1) Currently, a county collector must collect a specified amount of fees for collecting local taxes. In counties where the total amount levied in a year is between \$350,000 and \$2 million, the fee is 2.5% on the first \$350,000 collected and 1% on the rest. In counties where the total amount levied exceeds \$2 million, the fee is 1% on all amounts collected. This bill raises the outer threshold amount for a county to be eligible to collect the 2.5% on the first \$350,000 to \$3 million;

(2) Allows counties in which townships have been abolished to continue to collect a property tax on a county-wide basis for road and bridge purposes for either one year following the abolishment of the townships or until the county voters have approved a property tax for such purposes, whichever occurs first. The property tax must be the same amount as the property tax being levied in the township with the lowest total tax rate immediately before the townships were abolished. The collection of the property tax is to be considered a continuation of a tax and not a new tax; and

(3) Extends the expiration date of the provisions authorizing the commission of any regional jail district to submit a ballot proposal imposing a region-wide sales tax for the purpose of funding a regional jail from September 30, 2015, to September 30, 2027.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that this change is vital to the continued operation of the collector's office.

Testifying for the bill were Senator Hegeman and Missouri County Collectors Association.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.