

HB 1393 -- PUBLIC SAFETY SALES TAX

SPONSOR: King

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Local Government by a vote of 9 to 1.

This bill authorizes the cities of Liberty and North Kansas City to impose, upon voter approval, a sales tax of up to .5% solely for the purpose of improving the public safety of the city, including expenditures on equipment, salaries and benefits, and facilities for police, fire, and emergency medical providers.

This bill is the same as HCS HB 566 (2015).

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that the additional revenue is greatly needed, mostly to allow the municipality to provide competitive salaries for public safety personnel, to update equipment, and to hire additional personnel.

Testifying for the bill were Representative King; Lindell Brenton, City Of Liberty; Steve Beamer, City Of North Kansas City; Sherwood Smith, Missouri State Council Of Fire Fighters; Sheldon L Lineback, Missouri Police Chiefs Association; and the Missouri Fraternal Order Of Police.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.