

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH  
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

**FISCAL NOTE**

L.R. No.: 5281-04  
Bill No.: HCS for HB 1796  
Subject: Tax Incentives; Taxation and Revenue - General, Department of Revenue,  
Property, Real and Personal  
Type: Original  
Date: February 6, 2018

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Bill Summary: This proposal establishes the First-Time Home Buyer Savings Account Act and authorizes a deduction for contributions to a savings account dedicated to buying a first home.

**FISCAL SUMMARY**

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND</b>			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021
General Revenue	(\$99,872)	(Up to \$1,422,903)	(Up to \$2,746,272)
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue</b>	<b>(\$99,872)</b>	<b>(Up to \$1,422,903)</b>	<b>(Up to \$2,746,272)</b>

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS</b>			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>Other</u> State Funds</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

Numbers within parentheses: ( ) indicate costs or losses.  
This fiscal note contains 8 pages.

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS</b>			
<b>FUND AFFECTED</b>	<b>FY 2019</b>	<b>FY 2020</b>	<b>FY 2021</b>
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> Federal Funds</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FULL TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE)</b>			
<b>FUND AFFECTED</b>	<b>FY 2019</b>	<b>FY 2020</b>	<b>FY 2021</b>
General Revenue	2 FTE	2 FTE	2 FTE
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on FTE</b>	<b>2 FTE</b>	<b>2 FTE</b>	<b>2 FTE</b>

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

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL FUNDS</b>			
<b>FUND AFFECTED</b>	<b>FY 2019</b>	<b>FY 2020</b>	<b>FY 2021</b>
<b>Local Government</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

## FISCAL ANALYSIS

### ASSUMPTION

Officials at the **Office of Administration Division of Budget and Planning (B&P)** assume this proposal would create a tax deduction, beginning with tax year 2019, for first time homeowners who contribute to a first-time home buyer savings account. The deduction shall be equal to half of qualifying contributions and only available to individuals who have never owned a home. The proposal includes a cap on the deduction of \$1,600 for individuals and \$3,200 for married filing-joint taxpayers.

Data from the MO Realtor's Association shows that there were 81,506 homes sold in Missouri during 2017 with a median price of \$157,000. According to information from the National Realtor's Association 38% of all home buyers in the West/North/Central region of the U.S. have never owned their own homes, the typical down payment is approximately 5% of the purchase price, and 63% of all buyers are married couples. In addition, home buyers typically take three years to save a down payment.

Using the above information, B&P estimates that there would be \$49.6 million in total eligible contributions in tax year 2019. However, given that the typical home buyer saves for the down payment for an average of three years, once fully implemented in tax year 2021, eligible contributions could be \$148.7 million annually. Since the deduction cap is limited to 50% of contributions and since deductions do not reduce revenues on a dollar for dollar basis, B&P estimates that this proposal would reduce Total State Revenue and General Revenue by approximately \$1.5 million in FY 2020. This proposal could reduce Total State Revenue and General Revenue by \$4.4 million annually, once fully implemented in FY 2022.

The provisions of this bill also allow the recapture of all money withdrawn within a year of the first deposit or if the money is not used for the purchase of a house. The recaptured amount is to be added to the Missouri adjusted gross income of the account holder or qualified beneficiary. B&P is unable to determine how much, if any, funds could be recaptured under this provision.

This proposal will impact the calculation under Article X, Section 18(e).

ASSUMPTION (continued)

Officials at the **Department of Revenue (DOR)** assume this section implements the First-Time Home Buyer Tax Deduction. For all tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2019, a taxpayer shall be allowed a deduction, equal to 50 percent of the taxpayer's contributions to a first time home buyer savings account in the tax year of the contribution. The amount of the deduction claimed shall not exceed the amount of the taxpayer's Missouri adjusted gross income for the tax year the deduction is claimed. The assets of a first-time home buyer savings account and any income therefrom shall be exempt from all taxation by the state or any of its political subdivisions. Income earned or received as a result of assets in a first-time home buyer savings account shall not be subject to state income tax imposed pursuant to chapter 143. Annual contributions made to the savings program up to and including eight hundred dollars per participating taxpayer and up to and including one thousand six hundred dollars for married individuals filing a joint tax return shall be subtracted in determining Missouri adjusted gross income under §143.121.

Beginning January 1, 2019, any individual may open an account with a financial institution and designate the account, in its entirety as a first-time home buyer savings account to be used to pay or reimburse a qualified beneficiary's eligible expenses for the purchase of his or her primary residence in Missouri. An individual may be the account holder of multiple accounts and an individual may jointly own the account with another person if such persons file a joint income tax return. An account holder shall designate a first-time home buyer as the qualified beneficiary of the first-time home buyer savings account. The account holder may designate himself or herself as the qualified beneficiary. A maximum contribution to a first-time home buyer savings account is one thousand six hundred dollars per year for an individual and three thousand two hundred dollars per year for account holders who file a joint tax return.

The proposed legislation could potentially reduce revenues up to \$3.97 million each year as a result of the proposed deduction which is subject to increase if the percentage of first time home buyers increases; plus additional costs for the creation of the necessary forms required when filing a Missouri return claiming the allowed deduction.

Approximately 80,058 homes were sold in Missouri in 2016. Approximately 38 percent of home buyers are first time home buyers. The maximum amount of contributions allowed within §143.1150, §443.1003, §443.1004 - §443.1007 is \$3,200 each year which allows a deduction (at 50 percent) of \$1,600.

ASSUMPTION (continued)

DOR assumes:

Number of Homes Sold in MO in 2016 per Missouri Realtors - 80,058  
 % of Homes bought by First Time Buyers per National Association of Realtors - x 38%  
 Total Number of MO Homes sold to First Time Buyers - 28,020 homes  
 Married Owners 17,655  
 Single Owners 10,368

<b>Total Eligible Contributions</b>	FY 2020	FY 2021	FY 2022
Single (use cap if < avg down payment)	\$16,588,018	\$33,176,035	\$49,764,053
Married (use cap if < avg down payment)	\$28,244,462	\$56,488,925	\$84,725,537
<b>Total Eligible Contributions</b>	<b>\$44,832,480</b>	<b>\$89,664,960</b>	<b>\$134,489,590</b>
<b>Total Deduction</b>	(owners x deduction amount)		
Single	\$8,294,088.80	\$16,588,017.60	\$24,882,026.40
Married	\$14,122,231.20	\$28,244,462.40	\$42,362,768.60
<b>Total Deduction</b>	<b>\$22,416,240</b>	<b>\$44,832,480</b>	<b>\$67,244,795</b>
Total Deduction (Total Deduction listed above x 5.9% rate)	\$1,322,558	\$2,645,116	\$3,967,443

DOR's Personal Tax Section will require one Revenue Processing Technician I (\$26,340) for every 14,700 errors created. Personal Tax requires one (1) Revenue Processing Technician I (\$26,340) for every 5,700 pieces of correspondence generated. Personal Tax requires one (1) temporary employee (\$8,164) for the new line item. DOR assumes a cost of approximately \$100,000 per year for the three additional FTE.

ASSUMPTION (continued)

**Oversight** will include a revenue reduction beginning in FY 2020 when 2019 tax returns are filed. Oversight is aware that some entities would reduce withholding or estimated tax payments in anticipation of a tax reduction but will indicate the full impact for the proposal in the year the tax returns would be filed.

Finally, **Oversight** assumes the amount of additional tax due to the recapture of withdrawals would not be significant.

**Oversight** will use DOR's estimates for the fiscal note. Oversight's policy is to show the full amount of the impact if all eligible taxpayers participate to the fullest in the program. However, for informational purposes we are showing what the cost would be should fewer taxpayers chose to participate.

% of Taxpayers Participating	1st Year	2nd Year	3rd Year
25%	\$ 330,683	\$ 661,279	\$ 991,861
50%	\$ 661,367	\$ 1,322,558	\$ 1,983,722
75%	\$ 992,049	\$ 1,983,837	\$ 2,975,582
100%	\$ 1,322,733	\$ 2,645,116	\$ 3,967,443

Officials at the **Department of Insurance, Financial Institutions and Professional Registration** and the **Joint Committee on Administrative Rules** each assume there is no fiscal impact from this proposal.

Officials from the **Office of the Secretary of State (SOS)** state many bills considered by the General Assembly include provisions allowing or requiring agencies to submit rules and regulations to implement the act. The SOS is provided with core funding to handle a certain amount of normal activity resulting from each year's legislative session. The fiscal impact for this fiscal note to the SOS for Administrative Rules is less than \$2,500. The SOS recognizes that this is a small amount and does not expect that additional funding would be required to meet these costs. However, the SOS also recognizes that many such bills may be passed by the General Assembly in a given year and that collectively the costs may be in excess of what the office can sustain with the core budget. Therefore, the SOS reserves the right to request funding

ASSUMPTION (continued)

for the cost of supporting administrative rules requirements should the need arise based on a review of the finally approved bills signed by the governor.

**Oversight** assumes the SOS could absorb the costs of printing and distributing regulations related to this proposal. If multiple bills pass which require the printing and distribution of regulations at substantial costs, the SOS could request funding through the appropriation process.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT - State Government</u>	FY 2019 (10 Mo.)	FY 2020	FY 2021
<b>GENERAL REVENUE</b>			
<u>Revenue Reduction</u> - tax deduction for first time home buyers §143.1150	\$0	(Up to \$1,322,558)	(Up to \$2,645,116)
<u>Cost - DOR</u>			
Personal Service	(\$43,900)	(\$53,207)	(\$53,739)
Temporary Tax Employee	(\$8,164)	(\$8,245)	(\$8,328)
Fringe Benefits	(\$31,018)	(\$37,378)	(\$37,536)
Equipment & Expenses	<u>(\$16,790)</u>	<u>(\$1,515)</u>	<u>(\$1,553)</u>
<u>Total Costs - DOR</u>	<u>(\$99,872)</u>	<u>(\$100,345)</u>	<u>(\$101,156)</u>
FTE Change	2 FTE	2 FTE	2 FTE
<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE</b>	<b><u>(\$99,872)</u></b>	<b>(Up to <u>\$1,422,903</u>)</b>	<b>(Up to <u>\$2,746,272</u>)</b>
Estimated Net FTE Change on General Revenue	2 FTE	2 FTE	2 FTE
<u>FISCAL IMPACT - Local Government</u>	FY 2019 (10 Mo.)	FY 2020	FY 2021
	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>

FISCAL IMPACT - Small Business

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

### FISCAL DESCRIPTION

Beginning January 1, 2019, this bill establishes the "First-Time Home Buyer Savings Account Act" and authorizes an individual income tax deduction for 50% of the contributions to such a savings account dedicated to buying a first home. The bill specifies that the annual contribution deduction limit is \$1,600 per taxpayer and a first-time home buyer is an individual who has never owned a single-family, owner-occupied primary residence including a condominium or manufactured home or a divorced individual who has not been listed on a property title for at least three years. The maximum contribution limit for all tax years is \$20,000 and the maximum total amount in the savings account is \$30,000. Funds in the savings account can be used only for eligible expenses of purchasing a primary residence in this state, transferred to another first-time home buyer savings account or used to pay service fees. Any withdrawal of funds for other purposes will be subject to recapture and penalties.

The provisions of the bill will expire December 31, six years from the effective date.

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

### SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Department of Insurance, Financial Institutions and Professional Registration  
Department of Revenue  
Joint Committee on Administrative Rules  
Office of Administration  
Division of Budget and Planning  
Office of the Secretary of State

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Acting Director  
February 6, 2018