

HCS HB 845 -- ENERGY PROPERTY TAXATION

SPONSOR: Andrews

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Standing Committee on Utilities by a vote of 9 to 0.

The following is a summary of the House Committee Substitute for HB 845.

This bill modifies several provisions related to property that uses wind energy to generate electricity.

Beginning January 1, 2022, this bill develops a depreciation table, as described in the bill, for the purpose of assessing all real, excluding land, or tangible personal property associated with a project that uses wind energy to generate electricity. The bill does not prohibit a project from engaging in Enhanced Enterprise Zone agreements or similar tax abatement agreements with state or local officials or alter any such existing agreements (Section 137.123, RSMo).

Additionally, this bill requires that any public utility company which has ownership of any real or personal property associated with a project that directly uses wind energy to generate electricity will be taxed using a standardized methodology of:

(1) Any wind energy property of such company will be assessed on the county assessor's local tax rolls; and

(2) All other real property, excluding land, or personal property related to the wind energy project will be assessed using the methodology provided under the depreciation table in this bill (Section 153.030).

Additionally, this bill repeals an expired provision of law that established the "Task Force on Wind Energy" (Section 393.1073).

This bill is similar to HB 2454 (2020).

The following is a summary of the public testimony from the committee hearing. The testimony was based on the introduced version of the bill.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that this bill is the culmination of the Wind Energy Task Force which was convened in 2019. The bill will establish a statewide assessment method for wind energy projects ensuring like projects are taxed the same across the state.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Andrews; Missouri Association of Counties; and Ameren Missouri.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

OTHERS: Others submitted written testimony for informational testimony purposes.

Written testimony has been submitted for this bill. The full written testimony can be found under Testimony on the bill page on the House website.