

HCS HB 1483 -- TAX CREDITS FOR SPORTING EVENTS

SPONSOR: Christ

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Special Committee on Tourism by a vote of 8 to 0.

The following is a summary of the House Committee Substitute for HB 1483.

This bill provides a tax credit to nonprofit organizations, described as "certified sponsors," that are active members of the Sports Events and Tourism Association.

Such certified sponsor shall supply the Department of Economic Development (DED) with a ticket sales or box office statement verifying the total number of tickets sold for a qualifying sporting event, or, if such event was participant based, a list of all registered participants, no more than 90 days after the sporting event.

After DED receives documentation of the ticket sales or registered participants, it shall issue refundable tax credits in the following manner:

- 1) An amount equal to \$6 for every admissions ticket; or
- 2) An amount equal to \$12 for every registered participant.

The Department of Revenue shall pay the amount of the refundable tax credit to the applicant within 90 days of the applicant's submission of a valid tax credit certificate.

The amount of tax credits issued by the DED shall not exceed \$6 million in any fiscal year. For all events located within the following counties, the total amount of tax credits issued shall not exceed \$5.5 million in any fiscal year:

- 1) A county with a charter form of government and with more than 600,000 inhabitants; or
- 2) A city not within a county.

Support contracts shall not be certified by DED after August 28, 2031, provided that the support contracts may be certified on or prior to August 28, 2031, for sporting events that will be held after such date.

This program sunsets six years after August 28, 2025.

This bill is similar to SB 1036 (2023).

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

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that this is a great return on investment. The events this tax credit brings in will increase our tourism and boost our economy.

Testifying in person for the bill were Representative Christ; Missouri Association of Convention & Visitor Bureaus; Becky Harsch, Visit Kansas City; Chris Wilson, Greater Saint Charles Convention and Visitors Bureau; Greater St. Louis Inc.; Jared Bruggeman, Joplin Sports Authority; Lance Kettering, Greater Springfield Area Sports Commission; Laura Brahan, Visit Maryland Heights; Marc Shreiber, St. Louis Sports Commission; Sarah Stanton, Greater Kansas City Sports Commission; and Terra Alphonso, Branson Chamber And Convention And Visitors Bureau.

OPPONENTS: Those who oppose the bill say that we shouldn't be doubling tax credits.

Testifying in person against the bill was Arnie C. Dienoff.

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