



MISSOURI SENATE

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Senate Panel Considers Proposed Bill by Sen. Rob Mayer to Protect County Classifications

JEFFERSON CITY – A Senate panel considered a bill today (3/25) proposed by Sen. Rob Mayer, R-Dexter, that would increase the assessed valuation of a county before moving it into a higher county classification.

Senator Mayer's [Senate Bill 455](#) — under consideration by the Senate Jobs, Economic Development and Local Government Committee — would increase the assessed valuation from \$600 million to \$1 billion for counties of the first classification and from \$450 million to \$750 million for counties of the second classification. All counties with an assessed valuation of less than \$750 million would be considered counties of the third classification.

This proposal seeks to prevent counties from automatically being forced into higher classifications and incurring additional costs for county services.

“This bill would allow the county classifications to better match the general growth of assessed valuations plus allow some counties to stay in their current county classification for a longer period of time,” Sen. Mayer said.

In addition, the Senate panel considered a related bill offered by Sen. Mayer — [Senate Bill 557](#) — that would ensure a county official's salary would not be reduced when a county changes classification until the person holding office at the time of change leaves office.

“We want to make sure these individuals salaries are protected when a change in county classification occurs,” Sen. Mayer said.

Both bills require an affirmative vote before they can be sent to the Senate floor for debate.

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