

SENATE AMENDMENT NO. _____

Offered by _____ of _____

Amend SS/SCS/House Bill No. 542, Page 7, Section 196.311, Line 22,

by inserting after all of said line the following:

"262.598. 1. As used in this section, the following terms shall mean:

(1) "Consolidated district", a district formed jointly by two or more councils;

(2) "Council", a University of Missouri extension council authorized under section 262.563;

(3) "District" or "extension district", a political subdivision formed by one or more councils;

(4) "Single-council district", a district formed by one council;

(5) "Governing body", the group of individuals who govern a district.

2. University of Missouri extension councils , except for any council located in a county with a charter form of government and with more than nine hundred fifty thousand inhabitants, are hereby authorized to form extension districts made up of cooperating counties for the purpose of funding extension programming. An extension district may be a single-council district or a consolidated district. A single-council district shall be formed upon a majority vote of the full council. A

1 consolidated district shall be formed upon a majority vote of
2 each participating council.

3 3. In a single-council district, the council shall serve as
4 the district's governing body. In addition to any other powers
5 and duties granted to the council under sections 262.550 to
6 262.620, the council shall also have the powers and duties
7 provided under subsection 5 of this section.

8 4. In a consolidated district, the governing body of the
9 district shall consist of at least three, but no more than five,
10 representatives appointed by each participating council. The
11 term of office shall be two years. Representatives may be
12 reappointed. The governing body shall elect officers, who shall
13 serve as officers for two years, and establish a regular meeting
14 schedule which shall not be less than once every three months.

15 5. The governing body of a district shall have the
16 following powers and duties:

17 (1) Review the activities and annual budgets of each
18 participating council;

19 (2) Determine, by September first of each year, the tax
20 rate necessary to generate sufficient revenue to fund the
21 extension programming in the district, which includes annual
22 funding for each participating council for the costs of personnel
23 and the acquisition, supply, and maintenance of each council's
24 property, work, and equipment;

25 (3) Oversee the collection of any tax authorized under this
26 section by ensuring the revenue is deposited into a special fund
27 and monitoring the use of the funds to ensure they are used
28 solely for extension programming in the district;

29 (4) Approve payments from the special fund in which the tax

1 revenue is deposited; and

2 (5) Work cooperatively with each participating council to
3 plan and facilitate the programs, equipment, and activities in
4 the district.

5 6. The governing body of a district may submit a question
6 to the voters of the district to institute a property tax levy in
7 the county or counties that compose the district. Questions may
8 be submitted to the voters of the district at any general
9 municipal election. Any such proposed tax shall not exceed
10 thirty cents per one hundred dollars of assessed valuation. The
11 costs of submitting the question to the voters at the general
12 municipal election shall be paid as provided in section 115.063.
13 Such question shall be submitted in substantially the following
14 form:

15 "Shall the Extension District in County (insert
16 name of county) be authorized to levy an annual tax of
17 (insert amount not to exceed thirty) cents per one hundred
18 dollars of assessed valuation for the purpose of funding the
19 University of Missouri Extension District programs, equipment,
20 and services in the district?"

21 In a single-council district, if a majority of the voters in the
22 county approve the question, then the district shall impose the
23 tax. If a majority of the voters in a single-council district do
24 not approve the question, then no tax shall be imposed. In a
25 consolidated district, if a majority of voters in each county in
26 the district approve the question, then the district shall impose
27 the tax. If a majority of the voters in a consolidated district
28 do not approve the question, then no tax shall be imposed in any
29 county of the district. In a consolidated district, if a

1 majority of voters in a county do not approve the question, the
2 council in the county that did not approve the question may
3 withdraw from the district. Upon such withdrawal, the district
4 shall be made up of the remaining counties and the tax shall be
5 imposed in those counties. However, if the county that did not
6 approve the question does not withdraw from the district, the tax
7 shall not be imposed. Revenues collected from the imposition of
8 a tax authorized under this section shall be deposited into a
9 special fund dedicated only for use by the local district for
10 programming purposes.

11 7. The county commission of any county in which the tax
12 authorized under this section is levied and collected:

13 (1) Shall be exempt from the funding requirements under
14 section 262.597 if revenue derived from the tax authorized under
15 this section is in excess of an amount equal to two hundred
16 percent of the average funding received under section 262.597 for
17 the immediately preceding three years; or

18 (2) May reduce the current year's funding amount under
19 section 262.597 by thirty-three percent of the amount of tax
20 revenues derived from the tax authorized under this section which
21 exceed the average amount of funding received under section
22 262.597 for the immediately preceding three years.

23 8. Any county that collects tax revenues authorized under
24 this section shall transfer all attributable revenue plus monthly
25 interest for deposit into the district's special fund. The
26 governing body of the district shall comply with the prudent
27 investor standard for investment fiduciaries as provided in
28 section 105.688.

29 9. In any county in which a single-council district is

1 established, and for which a tax has not been levied, the
2 district may be dissolved in the same manner in which it was
3 formed.

4 10. A county may withdraw from a consolidated district at
5 any time by the filing of a petition with the circuit court
6 having jurisdiction over the district. The petition shall be
7 signed by not fewer than ten percent of those who voted in the
8 most recent presidential election in the county seeking to
9 withdraw that is part of a consolidated district stating that
10 further operation of the district is contrary to the best
11 interest of the inhabitants of the county in which the district
12 is located and that the county seeks to withdraw from the
13 district. The circuit court shall hear evidence on the petition.
14 If the court finds that it is in the best interest of the
15 inhabitants of the county in which the district is located for
16 the county to withdraw from the district, the court shall make an
17 order reciting the same and submit the question to the voters.
18 The costs of submitting the question to the voters at the general
19 municipal election shall be paid as provided in section 115.063.
20 The question shall be submitted in substantially the following
21 format:

22 "Shall the County of (insert name of county)
23 being part of (insert name of district) Extension
24 District withdraw from the district?"

25 The question shall be submitted at the next general municipal
26 election date. The election returns shall be certified to the
27 court. If the court finds that two-thirds of the voters voting
28 on the question voted in favor of withdrawing from the district,
29 the court shall issue an order withdrawing the county from the

1 district, which shall contain a proviso that the district shall
2 remain intact for the sole purposes of paying all outstanding and
3 lawful obligations and disposing of the district's property. No
4 additional costs or obligations for the withdrawing county shall
5 be created except as necessary. The withdrawal shall occur on
6 the first day of the following January after the vote. If the
7 court finds that two-thirds of the voters voting on the question
8 shall not have voted favorably on the question to withdraw from
9 the district, the court shall issue an order dismissing the
10 petition and the district shall continue to operate.

11 11. The governing body of any district may seek voter
12 approval to increase its current tax rate authorized under this
13 section, provided such increase shall not cause the total tax to
14 exceed thirty cents per one hundred dollars of assessed
15 valuation. To propose such an increase, the governing body shall
16 submit the question to the voters at the general municipal
17 election in the county in which the district is located. The
18 costs of submitting the question to the voters at the general
19 municipal election shall be paid as provided in section 115.063.
20 The question shall be submitted in substantially the following
21 form:

22 "Shall the Extension District in (insert name of
23 county or counties) be authorized to increase the tax rate from
24 (insert current amount of tax) cents to (insert
25 proposed amount of tax not to exceed thirty) cents per one
26 hundred dollars of assessed valuation for the purpose of funding
27 the University of Missouri Extension District programs,
28 equipment, and services in the district?"

29 In a single-council district, if a majority of the voters in the

1 county approve the question, then the district shall impose the
2 tax. If a majority of the voters in a single-council district do
3 not approve the question, then the tax shall not be imposed. In
4 a consolidated district, if a majority of voters in the district
5 approve the question, then the district shall impose the new tax
6 rate. If a majority of the voters in a consolidated district do
7 not approve the question, then the tax shall not be imposed in
8 any county of the district. Revenues collected from the
9 imposition of the tax authorized under this section shall be
10 deposited into the special fund dedicated only for use by the
11 district."; and

12 Further amend the title and enacting clause accordingly.