

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH  
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

**FISCAL NOTE**

L.R. No.: 4407H.03C  
 Bill No.: HCS for HB Nos. 2134 & 1956  
 Subject: Department of Natural Resources; Water Resources and Water Districts  
 Type: Original  
 Date: January 26, 2024

Bill Summary: This proposal modifies permit requirements and exemptions in relation to Missouri fertilizer and clean water laws.

**FISCAL SUMMARY**

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND</b>			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027
General Revenue	(\$93,976)	(\$98,852)	(\$100,829)
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue</b>	<b>(\$93,976)</b>	<b>(\$98,852)</b>	<b>(\$100,829)</b>

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS</b>			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027
Water Pollution Permit Fee Fund	\$0 to \$28,000	\$0 to \$28,000	\$0 to \$28,000
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>Other</u> State Funds</b>	<b>\$0 to \$28,000</b>	<b>\$0 to \$28,000</b>	<b>\$0 to \$28,000</b>

Numbers within parentheses: () indicate costs or losses.

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS</b>			
<b>FUND AFFECTED</b>	<b>FY 2025</b>	<b>FY 2026</b>	<b>FY 2027</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 2025</b>	<b>FY 2026</b>	<b>FY 2027</b>
General Revenue	1 FTE	1 FTE	1 FTE
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on FTE</b>	<b>1 FTE</b>	<b>1 FTE</b>	<b>1 FTE</b>

- Estimated Net Effect (expenditures or reduced revenues) expected to exceed \$250,000 in any of the three fiscal years after implementation of the act or at full implementation of the act.
- Estimated Net Effect (savings or increased revenues) expected to exceed \$250,000 in any of the three fiscal years after implementation of the act or at full implementation of the act.

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL FUNDS</b>			
<b>FUND AFFECTED</b>	<b>FY 2025</b>	<b>FY 2026</b>	<b>FY 2027</b>
<b>Local Government</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

## FISCAL ANALYSIS

### ASSUMPTION

Officials from the **Department of Natural Resources (DNR)** assume the following regarding this proposal:

Proposed changes to §644.041.2 RSMo (new subsection), the department's Water Protection Program would likely need to contract groundwater impact assessments or monitoring programs with the department's Missouri Geological Survey, for an estimated 10 sites per year, with a cost per assessment site of \$1,468, for a total annual estimated cost of **\$14,678**. Reviewing compliance with the additional requirements of this proposed language would likely be incorporated into the current review with negligible fiscal impact and would be absorbed with current funding.

§644.051.6, codifies the current status of land application for sites and materials that were previously under the fertilizer permit exemption. This is the current regulatory status of permitting land application of materials previously licensed under the Missouri Fertilizer law. The department is currently processing these permits, which has significantly increased the workload of the permitting team in particular, but has also impacted the enforcement, inspection, and engineering teams, resulting in slower process times, and increasing current backlog. In order to maintain statutory requirements and effective permit processes, there is a need for **one FTE (Environmental Program Analyst)** at \$57,768 annually. (NDI was requested for this FTE; does not include fringe and indirect, see fund summary for expense and equipment costs) Revenue increase could range from **\$0 to \$28,000** for these facilities.

Overall Impact: Gain in revenue of \$0 to \$28,000

Absorbed costs of groundwater impact assessments: \$14,678

1 FTE - \$57,768 (does not include fringe and indirect; see fund summary for expense and equipment costs)

**Oversight** does not have information to the contrary and therefore, Oversight will reflect the estimates as provided by DNR.

Officials from the **Missouri Department of Agriculture** assume the proposal will have no fiscal impact on their organization. **Oversight** does not have any information to the contrary. Therefore, Oversight will reflect a zero impact in the fiscal note.

In response to a previous version, officials from the **Missouri Department of Conservation** assumed the proposal would have no fiscal impact on their organization. **Oversight** does not have any information to the contrary. Therefore, Oversight will reflect a zero impact in the fiscal note.

Officials from the **South River Drainage District** and **Wayne County Public Supply Water District #2** each assume the proposal will have no fiscal impact on their respective organizations. **Oversight** does not have any information to the contrary. Therefore, Oversight will reflect a zero impact in the fiscal note for these agencies.

**Oversight** only reflects the responses received from state agencies and political subdivisions; however, other local political subdivisions were requested to respond to this proposed legislation but did not. A listing of political subdivisions included in the Missouri Legislative Information System (MOLIS) database is available upon request.

Rule Promulgation

Officials from the **Joint Committee on Administrative Rules** assume this proposal is not anticipated to cause a fiscal impact beyond its current appropriation.

Officials from the **Office of the Secretary of State (SOS)** note 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 \$5,000. 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 its core budget. Therefore, the SOS reserves the right to request funding 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.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT – State Government</u>	FY 2025 (10 Mo.)	FY 2026	FY 2027
<b>GENERAL REVENUE FUND</b>			
<u>Costs - DNR</u>			
Personnel Service	(\$48,140)	(\$58,923)	(\$60,102)
Fringe Benefits	(\$28,990)	(\$35,484)	(\$36,193)
Expense & Equipment	(\$16,846)	(\$4,445)	(\$4,534)
<u>Total Costs - DNR</u>	<u>(\$93,976)</u>	<u>(\$98,852)</u>	<u>(\$100,829)</u>
FTE Change	1 FTE	1 FTE	1 FTE
<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE</b>	<b><u>(\$93,976)</u></b>	<b><u>(\$98,852)</u></b>	<b><u>(\$100,829)</u></b>
Estimated Net FTE Change on General Revenue	1 FTE	1 FTE	1 FTE

<u>FISCAL IMPACT – State Government</u>	FY 2025 (10 Mo.)	FY 2026	FY 2027
<b>WATER POLLUTION PERMIT FEE FUND (0568)</b>			
<u>Revenue – DNR – water pollution permit fees</u>	<u>\$0 to \$28,000</u>	<u>\$0 to \$28,000</u>	<u>\$0 to \$28,000</u>
<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON THE WATER POLLUTION PERMIT FEE FUND</b>	<b><u>\$0 to \$28,000</u></b>	<b><u>\$0 to \$28,000</u></b>	<b><u>\$0 to \$28,000</u></b>

<u>FISCAL IMPACT – Local Government</u>	FY 2025 (10 Mo.)	FY 2026	FY 2027
	<b><u>\$0</u></b>	<b><u>\$0</u></b>	<b><u>\$0</u></b>

FISCAL IMPACT – Small Business

Certain small businesses that require a permit could be impacted by this proposal.

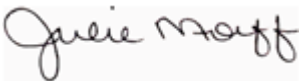
FISCAL DESCRIPTION

This proposal modifies permit requirements and exemptions in relation to Missouri fertilizer and clean water laws.

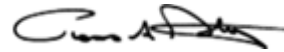
This legislation is not federally mandated, would not duplicate any other program and would not require additional capital improvements or rental space.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Department of Natural Resources  
Office of the Secretary of State  
Missouri Department of Agriculture  
Missouri Department of Conservation  
Joint Committee on Administrative Rules  
South River Drainage District  
Wayne County Public Supply Water District #2



Julie Morff  
Director  
January 26, 2024



Ross Strobe  
Assistant Director  
January 26, 2024