

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

FISCAL NOTE

L.R. No.: 4445-01
Bill No.: SB 649
Subject: Excavation; Fees; Fire Protection; Mining and Oil and Gas Production;
 Department of Public Safety
Type: Original
Date: January 3, 2018

Bill Summary: This proposal modifies the per ton fee that is paid to the Division of Fire Safety for the use of explosives under the Missouri Blasting Safety Act.

FISCAL SUMMARY

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021
Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021
Explosives Safety Fund	\$33,000, possibly up to \$60,500	\$66,000, possibly up to \$121,000	\$66,000, possibly up to \$121,000
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>Other</u> State Funds	\$33,000, possibly up to \$60,500	\$66,000, possibly up to \$121,000	\$66,000, possibly up to \$121,000

Numbers within parentheses: () indicate costs or losses.
 This fiscal note contains 5 pages.

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FULL TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE)			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021
Total Estimated Net Effect on FTE	0	0	0

Estimated Net Effect (expenditures or reduced revenues) expected to exceed \$100,000 in any of the three fiscal years after implementation of the act.

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL FUNDS			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2019	FY 2020	FY 2021
Local Government	\$0	\$0	\$0

FISCAL ANALYSIS

ASSUMPTION

Officials from the **Department of Public Safety - Division of Fire Safety (DPS)** state they are charged with administering the Missouri Explosives Safety Act which regulates and provides oversight of all above-ground blasting conducted in our State. This industry was impacted by the economic downturn in 2009-2010, and program revenues have never regained their strength. As a result, the program has struggled with a poor fund balance while supporting 2 FTE: a blast-safety investigator and one clerical position.

RSMo 319.318 4 (3) allows for the increase in fees per ton of explosives used from \$2.00 to up to \$7.50 per ton used. This fee would be established by rule, and shall be no greater than the cost to administer the program.

The Missouri Blast Safety Board and the Division of Fire Safety staff agree to an initial increase to \$5.00 per ton used in order to cover the cost of administering the program. This legislation exempts surface coal mining companies in 319.318 4. (3). With the average of 21,924 remaining tons used annually, this fee increase would amount to approximately \$65,772 of additional revenue annually. The proposed legislation does allow for an increase up to \$7.50 per ton, should the cost of administering the program justify such an increase in future years.

This increase would require a rule change. Due to the time frame involved in the promulgated rule process, the Division projects additional revenues in FY19 to total only \$32,886 (6 months).

This proposed legislation would have on-going benefits to the Division of Fire Safety by ensuring the continuance of the Explosives Safety program. Without the passage of this legislation, the Division of Fire Safety will not have the revenues to support the program moving past fall of 2018. Current fund balance is at \$34,148 (12/8), with program revenues of approximately \$90,000 anticipated for January through March of 2018 as quarries file their annual reports. Annual program expenses average \$148,456, inclusive of fringe and transfers.

Oversight will reflect the anticipated \$3 per ton increase in the fee as estimated by the Division of Fire Safety of approximately \$66,000 (21,924 x \$3) and \$33,000 in FY 2019 for 6 months. For fiscal note purposes, Oversight will also reflect the new ceiling of \$7.50 per ton fee; however new language is added in the proposal stating “the fee established by rule shall be no greater than the cost of administering sections 319.300 - 319.345.” The new ceiling of \$7.50 would be a \$5.50 per ton increase over the current \$2.00 fee. Therefore, using DPS’ estimated tonnage of 21,924, this would yield an additional \$121,000 in fees annually.

ASSUMPTION (continued)

As noted by DPS, Oversight assumes that without passage of this fee increase, either the program would need to be supported with General Revenue funding, would be diminished, or possibly cease.

Officials from the **Department of Natural Resources** and the **Office of the State Courts Administrator** each assume the proposal would not fiscally impact their respective agencies.

<u>FISCAL IMPACT - State Government</u>	FY 2019 (10 Mo.)	FY 2020	FY 2021
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EXPLOSIVES SAFETY FUND

<u>Income</u> - DPS - increasing the fee per ton of explosives used from \$2 to \$5, with the possibility of up to \$7.50	\$33,000, possibly <u>up to \$60,500</u>	\$66,000, possibly <u>up to \$121,000</u>	\$66,000, possibly <u>up to \$121,000</u>
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ESTIMATED NET EFFECT TO THE EXPLOSIVES SAFETY FUND	\$33,000, possibly <u>up to \$60,500</u>	\$66,000, possibly <u>up to \$121,000</u>	\$66,000, possibly <u>up to \$121,000</u>
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<u>FISCAL IMPACT - Local Government</u>	FY 2019 (10 Mo.)	FY 2020	FY 2021
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	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>
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FISCAL IMPACT - Small Business

Small businesses that use explosives would have to pay more in fees to the Division of Fire Safety as a result of this proposal.

FISCAL DESCRIPTION

Currently, the fee paid to the Division of Fire Safety for using explosives may be set by rule, but shall not exceed \$2 per ton. Under this act, the fee shall not exceed \$7.50 per ton and any fee established by rule shall not yield revenue greater than the cost of administering the Missouri Blasting Safety Act. Such fee shall not apply to any entity regulated under the Surface Coal Mining Law.

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 Public Safety - Division of Fire Safety
Department of Natural Resources
Office of the State Courts Administrator

Ross Strope



Acting Director
January 3, 2018