

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

FISCAL NOTE

L.R. No.: 4680S.02I
Bill No.: SB 860
Subject: Air Quality; Boards, Commissions, Committees, and Councils; Environmental Protection; Department of Natural Resources; Water Resources and Water Districts
Type: Original
Date: February 4, 2026

Bill Summary: This proposal creates provisions relating to weather modification.

FISCAL SUMMARY

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON GENERAL REVENUE FUND

FUND AFFECTED	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
Total Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue	\$0	\$0	\$0

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON OTHER STATE FUNDS

FUND AFFECTED	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>Other</u> State Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

Numbers within parentheses: () indicate costs or losses.

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS

FUND AFFECTED	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> Federal Funds	\$0	\$0	\$0

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FULL TIME EQUIVALENT (FTE)

FUND AFFECTED	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
Total Estimated Net Effect on FTE	0	0	0

☐ 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.

ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL FUNDS

FUND AFFECTED	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029
Local Government	\$0	\$0	\$0

FISCAL ANALYSIS

ASSUMPTION

§640.870 – Weather Modification

Officials from the **Department of Natural Resources (DNR)** state that the bill text at 640.870.5. requires the department to create an online publicly accessible form for the purpose of reporting any instance of weather modification in the state. The department intends to use its existing form for reporting environmental concerns to the department. This section also requires the department to investigate each report for any violations.

The department estimates it will require 40 hours for an Environmental Program Analyst to review a single report of suspected weather modification activity. For a single investigation/inspection of reported weather modification, the department estimates it will require a state vehicle rental at \$70, an overnight stay at \$140, per diem at \$83, and 12 hours of time for an Environmental Program Analyst to conduct an inspection and write a report. The following summary provides the estimated fiscal impact assuming three reports of suspected weather modification activity are received each year.

Summary of impact for subsection 640.870.5.

Staff time to Review, Inspect and Develop Report on three reports of suspected weather modification activity/year: (52 hr. x 3 reports) for Environmental Program Analyst @ \$35.48 per hour = \$5,535/year (fringe and indirect not included)

Estimated 3 investigations/inspections per year: \$ \$879 per fiscal year $((\$140 + \$83 + 70) * 3)$

The bill text at 640.870.9 requires the air commission to promulgate rules to enforce the provisions of this section.

The department estimates the staff time needed to develop and move a rulemaking through the administrative process for air commission adoption and subsequent filing with the secretary of state, would take about 600 hours of staff time for an Environmental Program Analyst position.

The department anticipates the bill's impact on air program permitting and enforcement staff would be minimal to implement the rule.

The 600 hours of staff time for an Environmental Program Analyst as needed to develop the rulemaking and move it through the administrative process would be a one-time cost of: \$21,288.

Summary of impact

FY27: \$27,702 (\$879+\$5,535+\$21,288) The department anticipates being able to absorb the FTE, but not the cost related to the work. However, until the FY27 Budget is final, the

department cannot identify specific FTE. The program's current funding sources are not eligible for the work so General Revenue is being requested.

FY 28 and beyond: \$6,414/fiscal year - The department anticipates being able to absorb the FTE, but not the cost related to the work. However, until the FY27 Budget is final, the department cannot identify specific FTE. The program's current funding sources are not eligible for the work so General Revenue is being requested. The personal services costs are included in the Other Category since FTE are not being requested.

Oversight assumes the DNR is provided with core funding to handle a certain amount of activity each year. Oversight assumes the DNR could absorb the costs related to this proposal. If multiple bills pass which require additional staffing and duties at substantial costs, the DNR could request funding through the appropriation process

§643.040 - Air Conservation Commission of the State of Missouri

Officials from the **Office of the Governor (GOV)** state that this bill adds to the Governor's current load of appointment duties. Individually, additional requirements should not fiscally impact the Office of the Governor. However, the cumulative impact of additional appointment duties across all enacted legislation may require additional resources for the Office of the Governor.

Oversight notes that this proposal changes the number of committee members from seven (7) to eight (8) appointed by the Governor and one member shall be knowledgeable in weather modification.

Oversight does not anticipate a fiscal impact from this provision.

§644.021 - Clean Water Commission of the State of Missouri

Officials from the **Office of the Governor (GOV)** state that this bill adds to the Governor's current load of appointment duties. Individually, additional requirements should not fiscally impact the Office of the Governor. However, the cumulative impact of additional appointment duties across all enacted legislation may require additional resources for the Office of the Governor.

Oversight notes that this proposal changes the number of committee members from seven (7) to eight (8) appointed by the Governor and one member shall be knowledgeable in weather modification.

Oversight does not anticipate a fiscal impact from this provision.

Responses regarding the proposed legislation as a whole

Officials from the **Office of the State Courts Administrator** and **Missouri Senate** 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.

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 2027 (10 Mo.)	FY 2028	FY 2029
	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>

<u>FISCAL IMPACT – Local Government</u>	FY 2027 (10 Mo.)	FY 2028	FY 2029
	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>

FISCAL IMPACT – Small Business

No direct fiscal impact on small businesses would be expected as a result of this proposal.

FISCAL DESCRIPTION

The proposed legislation appears to have no direct fiscal impact.

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 Governor
Office of the State Courts Administrator
Office of the Secretary of State
Joint Committee on Administrative Rules
Missouri Senate

Julie Morff
Director

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jessica Harris".

Jessica Harris
Assistant Director
February 4, 2026