

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH  
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

**FISCAL NOTE**

L.R. NO.: 4315-01  
BILL NO.: HB 1841  
SUBJECT: Noxious weeds  
TYPE: Original  
DATE: February 15, 2000

**FISCAL SUMMARY**

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON STATE FUNDS</b>			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2001	FY 2002	FY 2003
None	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> State Funds</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS</b>			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2001	FY 2002	FY 2003
None	\$0	\$0	\$0
<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 LOCAL FUNDS</b>			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2001	FY 2002	FY 2003
<b>Local Government</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

Numbers within parentheses: ( ) indicate costs or losses.  
This fiscal note contains 6 pages.

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**FISCAL ANALYSIS**

ASSUMPTION

Officials from the **Office of the Lieutenant Governor**, the **Office of State Courts Administrator**, the **Office of the State Auditor**, the **State Tax Commission**, the **Gaming Commission**, the **Office of Administration - Division of Design and Construction**, the **Department of Agriculture**, the **Department of Insurance**, the **Department of Economic Development - Division of Motor Carrier and Railroad Safety**, the **Department of Health**, the **Department of Labor and Industrial Relations**, the **Office of the State Treasurer**, the **Office of the Secretary of State**, the **Office of the Governor**, the **Department of Revenue**, the **University of Missouri**, the **Missouri House of Representatives**, **Missouri Western State College** and the **City of Kirksville** assume they would not be fiscally impacted by this proposed legislation.

Officials from the **City of West Plains** assume there could be some costs involved in reference to eradication, but they do not expect these costs to have a significant fiscal impact on the City.

Officials from the **Department of Higher Education** noted that they do not own land that may contain these weeds. Additionally, they noted that there could be a fiscal impact on higher education institutions to the extent that they own affected lands.

Officials from the **Department of Elementary and Secondary Education** assume their agency and state board operated schools would have the duty of eradicating the spread of teasel and kudzu on their property. They assume the fiscal impact will not be in excess of \$100,000. Additionally, in reference to local impact, all school districts would have the duty of eradicating teasel and kudzu on their property. The Department assumes the cost to control such weeds could be in excess of \$100,000 statewide.

Officials from the **Department of Mental Health** assume their Department has approximately 254 acres of ungroomed property which would all need to be treated to ensure compliance. The cost of treatment is \$22 per acre with treatment continuing every other year. Therefore, the Department assumes per year, annualized costs of \$2,794 (254 acres X \$22 per acre divided by 2).

Officials from the **Department of Public Safety** noted that they do not know the impact of this proposed legislation on the Department because they do not know the costs that would be incurred in reference to controlling the spread of or eradicating these noxious weeds. Additionally, the Department noted that they do not know whether these weeds will return once

ASSUMPTION (continued)

they are eliminated. Therefore, officials from the Department assume the fiscal impact is unknown.

Officials from the **Department of Social Services - Division of Research and Evaluation** assume they would not be fiscally impacted by this proposed legislation. Officials from the **Division of Youth Services** assume costs related to controlling and eradicating cut-leaf teasel, common teasel and kudzu vine on properties owned and maintained by the Division are immaterial and can be absorbed into the maintenance budget.

Officials from the **Department of Natural Resources** assume that since they own property the Department would be subject to the provisions of the proposed legislation. The Department has had instances of sightings and eradication of cut-leaved teasel, but they have been able to handle them with existing resources. The Department is not aware of any common teasel or kudzu growing on any of their state property. Therefore, they do not anticipate any fiscal impact from this proposal.

However, if cut-leaved teasel, common teasel or kudzu are identified on any of the Department's property and they are required to eradicate it, the Department may pursue resources through the normal budget process.

Officials from the **Department of Conservation** assume the costs to control the spread of and to eradicate cut-leaved teasel, common teasel and kudzu vine would be less than \$15,000 per year.

Officials from the **Department of Corrections** stated they would comply with this proposal, but the costs to comply are unknown. If the Department incurs costs, they may have to pursue resources through the normal budget process.

Officials from the **Department of Transportation** (MoDOT or MHTC) assume cut-leaved teasel, teasel, and kudzu out breaks have been identified in all 10 of the MoDOT Districts. The total acreage affected is calculated to be 52 acres of kudzu and the total acreage affected by cut-leaved teasel and teasel is calculated to be 1,072 acres.

Since cut-leaved teasel, teasel, and kudzu can spread by seeds, but also spreads by runners and rhizomes, it will be necessary to spray the infested area to kill the plant. The type of herbicide for controlling kudzu is different than the herbicide for controlling cut-leaved teasel and teasel. On kudzu outbreaks, it will be necessary to kill everything and then replant the area to establish vegetation.

ASSUMPTION (continued)

The estimated cost for the herbicide to treat one acre kudzu will be approximately \$20 per acre.

With 52 acres at \$20.00 per acre, the cost to eradicate the kudzu will be \$1,040.

The estimated cost for the herbicide to treat one acre of cut-leaved teasel and teasel will be approximately \$13 per acre. With 1,072 acres at \$13.00 per acre, the cost to eradicate the teasel will be \$13,936.

The state wide average cost in 1998 for establishing native plants on MHTC right-of-ways is \$543.92 per acre. Since the kudzu sites will require re-vegetation, the cost to replant vegetation is \$28,284 (52 acres at \$543.92 per acre).

Therefore, the total cost to eradicate the teasel and kudzu and replant vegetation is \$43,260 for FY 01, \$44,557 for FY 02 and \$45,894 for FY 03.

**Total costs are indicated as zero to reflect a decision made by the Oversight Subcommittee on February 1, 2000 in reference to a similar proposal (HB 1395).**

<u>FISCAL IMPACT - State Government</u>	FY 2001 (10 Mo.)	FY 2002	FY 2003
	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>
 <u>FISCAL IMPACT - Local Government</u>	 FY 2001 (10 Mo.)	 FY 2002	 FY 2003
	 <u>\$0</u>	 <u>\$0</u>	 <u>\$0</u>

FISCAL IMPACT - Small Business

Small businesses could be fiscally impacted due to eradication costs addressed in this proposal.

DESCRIPTION

This proposal requires persons, corporations, partnerships, the state highway and transportation commission, state agencies, county commissions, township boards, school boards, drainage boards, railroad companies, governing bodies of incorporated cities, other transportation

DESCRIPTION (continued)

companies and persons supervising state-owned lands to control the spread of and eradicate by methods approved by the Department of Agriculture cut-leaved teasel (*Dipsacus laciniatus*),

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common teasel (*Dipsacus fullonum*) and kudzu vine (*Pueraria lobata*) which are designated as noxious and dangerous weeds to agriculture.

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 Agriculture  
Department of Conservation  
Department of Corrections  
Department of Economic Development  
Division of Motor Carrier and Railroad Safety  
Department of Elementary and Secondary Education  
Department of Health  
Department of Higher Education  
Department of Insurance  
Department of Labor and Industrial Relations  
Department of Mental Health  
Department of Natural Resources  
Department of Public Safety  
Department of Revenue  
Department of Social Services  
Division of Research and Evaluation  
Division of Youth Services  
Department of Transportation  
Gaming Commission  
Missouri House of Representatives  
Missouri Western State College  
Office of Administration  
Division of Design and Construction  
Office of the Governor  
Office of the Lieutenant Governor  
Office of the Secretary of State  
Office of the State Auditor  
Office of State Courts Administrator  
SOURCES OF INFORMATION (continued)

Office of the State Treasurer  
State Tax Commission  
University of Missouri

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Cities of Kirksville, West Plains

**NOT RESPONDING:** Office of the Attorney General, Missouri Lottery Commission, Missouri State Senate Administration, Central Missouri State University, Harris-Stowe College, Lincoln University, Missouri Southern State College, Truman State University, Northwest Missouri State University, Southeast Missouri State University, Southwest Missouri State University; County Commissioners of the Counties of: Greene and Cape; City Administrators of the Cities of: Branson and Poplar Bluff



Jeanne Jarrett, CPA  
Director  
February 15, 2000