

HCS HB 46 -- FIRE SPRINKLER SYSTEM INSTALLATIONS

SPONSOR: Franz (Diehl)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass" by the Committee on General Laws by a vote of 9 to 1.

This substitute repeals a conflicting statute created by the passage of House Bill 103 and Senate Bill 513 in 2009 regarding the installation of fire sprinkler systems and extends the December 31, 2011 expiration date for Section 67.281, RSMo, to December 31, 2019.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2012, FY 2013, and FY 2014.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that many home buyers do not want sprinklers installed and homes are safe without them. The installation cost is high and will hurt the housing market.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Diehl; Home Builders Association; St. Louis Home Builders Association; and Home Builders of Missouri.

OPPONENTS: Those who oppose the bill say that residential fire sprinkler systems save lives and the bill gives political subdivisions the ability to mandate sprinklers. The sprinkler requirement should apply to homes with more than two families occupying the premises.

Testifying against the bill were Missouri Fire Service Alliance; American Institute of Architects of Missouri; and Rick Ennis, Fire Chief, City of Cape Girardeau.