

HB 189 -- COOLERS ON RIVERS AND WATERWAYS

SPONSOR: Ruzicka

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass by consent" by the Committee on Tourism and Natural Resources by a vote of 14 to 0.

Currently, a person is not allowed to possess expanded polypropylene coolers on or within 50 feet of any river in this state except for certain specified rivers and areas. This bill repeals that provision.

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

PROPOSERS: Supporters of the bill say that legislation passed in 2009 incorrectly specified the type of material that was intended to be prohibited and needs to be repealed.

Testifying for the bill was Representative Ruzicka.

OPPOSERS: Those who oppose the bill say that it will allow polypropylene coolers on the state rivers and waterways. Many stream teams find items of this material littering the river banks, and it should continue to be prohibited.

Testifying against the bill was Missouri Conservation and Environmental Alliance.

OTHERS: Others testifying on the bill answered questions regarding plastic soda bottles.

Testifying on the bill was Missouri Retailers Association.