

HB 327 -- CAPE GIRARDEAU COUNTY CIRCUIT COURT

SPONSOR: Wallingford

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass by consent" by the Committee on Local Government by a vote of 15 to 0.

Currently, the circuit court in Cape Girardeau County is required to hold court and maintain an office of the probate division in the courthouses in the cities of Jackson and Cape Girardeau and the circuit clerk is required to maintain offices in both courthouses. This bill removes that requirement and specifies that the circuit court may hold court and maintain an office of the probate division in Jackson and Cape Girardeau and the circuit clerk may maintain an office at both locations.

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

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that changing the requirement that the circuit court in Cape Girardeau County hold court in the courthouses in both Cape Girardeau and Jackson will give the judiciary more flexibility and potentially will save the county money.

Testifying for the bill was Representative Wallingford.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

OTHERS: Others testifying on the bill say that the court judges would like to have the option of holding court only in one city.

Testifying on the bill was Missouri Associate Circuit Judge Voluntary Fund.