

HB 442 -- VETERAN PREFERENCE FOR STATE CONTRACTS

SPONSOR: Franz

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass by consent" by the Committee on Veterans by a vote of 14 to 0.

This bill requires the Commissioner of the Office of Administration to give a bidding preference consisting of a five-point bonus on bids on a state contract for goods and services manufactured, produced, or assembled by a qualified veteran-owned business headquartered in Missouri.

The term "veteran-owned business" means a business which is owned at least 51% by one or more veterans with verifiable military service or, in the case of a publicly owned business, at least 51% of the stock in the business is owned by one or more veterans and the management and daily business operations are controlled by one or more veterans.

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

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that the bill will give veteran business owners an advantage in the bidding process and can help them stay in business. Giving a veteran owner a preference in the bid process can help him or her integrate back into the community.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Franz; Missouri National Guard Association; Dewey Riehn, Missouri Association of Veterans Organizations; Dewey Riehn, Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, Missouri Department; Doug Burnett; and Darrel Denny.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.