

HB 1036 -- POLITICAL PARTY EMBLEMS ON BALLOTS

SPONSOR: Dugger

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass by consent" by the Committee on Elections by a vote of 10 to 0.

This bill repeals the provision that requires a political party's emblem to be printed on an election ballot above the party caption.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2013, FY 2014, and FY 2015.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that the bill is a technical change that will result in less voter error because straight party voting has been abolished in Missouri but some voters mistakenly circle the party emblem attempting to cast a straight ticket vote. Party emblems take up space on ballots and cost additional money for printing.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Dugger; and Missouri Association of County Clerks and Election Authorities.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.