

HB 1191 -- STATE PARK EARNINGS FUND

SPONSOR: Ruzicka

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass" by the Committee on Tourism and Natural Resources by a vote of 13 to 0.

This bill authorizes the State Treasurer to deposit all of the moneys in the State Park Earnings Fund in any of the qualified depositories of the state and requires all these deposits to be secured in a manner provided by law relative to state deposits. Any interest earned on these deposits must be credited to the fund.

FISCAL NOTE: Estimated Net Cost on General Revenue Fund of \$66,000 in FY 2013, \$52,000 in FY 2014, and \$37,000 in FY 2015. Estimated Net Income on Other State Funds of \$66,000 in FY 2013, \$52,000 in FY 2014, and \$37,000 in FY 2015.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that the bill allows the interest earned on the money in the fund to remain in the fund and help pay for the backlog of identified projects in the 85 state parks and historic sites. The money in the fund is from a designated portion of the Parks and Soils Sales Tax which has been reauthorized several times by the voters and is specifically used to fund the state park system. The interest from the fund should remain in the fund rather than be transferred to general revenue.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Ruzicka; Susan Flader, Missouri Parks Association; Missouri Park and Recreation Association; and Conservation Federation of Missouri.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.