

HCS HB 1395 -- LAND SURVEY PROGRAM

SPONSOR: Franz (Korman)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass" by the Committee on General Laws by a vote of 12 to 0.

This substitute changes the laws regarding the Land Survey Program within the Department of Natural Resources. In its main provisions, the substitute:

- (1) Dissolves the State Land Survey Authority and the Land Survey Advisory Committee and establishes the Land Survey Program and the Land Survey Commission within the Department of Natural Resources;
- (2) Revises the membership, terms, and duties of the commission;
- (3) Creates the Missouri Land Survey Fund for the deposit of \$1 of the \$6 fee collected by every county recorder for recording any instrument which currently is deposited into the General Revenue Fund for use by the department;
- (4) Expands the duties of the department by requiring it to restore, establish, maintain, and preserve Missouri state and county boundary markers and provide the framework for all geodetic positioning activities in the state; and
- (5) Requires the commission to recommend to the department a person to be selected and appointed State Land Surveyor. The State Land Surveyor will be the chief administrative officer of the program and the deputy director of the division and will serve at the pleasure of the department director. He or she must be selected under the State Merit System on the basis of professional experience and registration.

FISCAL NOTE: Estimated Net Cost on General Revenue Fund of \$66,161 in FY 2013, \$75,606 in FY 2014, and \$76,413 in FY 2015. Estimated Net Cost on Other State Funds of \$21,004 in FY 2013, \$24,402 in FY 2014, and \$24,259 in FY 2015.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that the bill is needed to update the statutory language to be consistent with what the department is currently doing. The bill creates a commission whose input would be considered in the design and planning of projects. The revenue in the fund would be able to be retained and not be transferred to General Revenue at the end of the fiscal year. The changes are needed to have the whole system function properly and to make sure that the land survey system is kept up-to-date and available in future years.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Korman; Missouri Society of Professional Surveyors; and Robert Myers.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

OTHERS: Others testifying on the bill say that there are three programs within the division that function independently, one of which is land surveying. The programs provide services that citizens rely on as being available when they need them.

Testifying on the bill was Division of Geology and Land Survey, Department of Natural Resources.