

HCS HB 422 -- OPINIONS BY BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

SPONSOR: Burlison

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with Amendments" by the Standing Committee on Professional Registration and Licensing by a vote of 13 to 0. Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Select Committee on General Laws by a vote of 8 to 0.

This bill allows any board or commission within the Division of Professional Registration in the Department of Insurance, Financial Institutions and Professional Registration to issue, at its discretion, oral or written opinions addressing topics relating to the qualifications, functions, or duties of any profession licensed by any board or commission within the division. Any opinion is for educational purposes, is in no way binding on the licensee, and cannot be used as the basis for any discipline against a licensee.

The bill specifies that a board or commission may not address topics relating to qualifications, functions, or duties of any profession licensed by a different board or commission.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that the bill allows boards and commissions to issue non-binding opinions regarding that profession. Currently, the boards can only direct licensees to a statute or rule pertaining to their question. The bill provides the licensee with more guidance.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Burlison; Missouri Association of Physicians and Surgeons; Missouri State Medical Association; and Missouri Society of Anesthesiologists.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.