

SCS SB 810 -- IMMUNITY FROM CIVIL LIABILITY FOR CERTAIN
LANDOWNERS

SPONSOR: Klindt (Myers)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass" by the Committee on
Agriculture by a vote of 23 to 0.

Currently, immunity from civil liability is granted to landowners adjoining the Katy Trail State Park and certain municipal and county trails. This substitute extends the immunity from civil liability to landowners adjoining all publicly owned trails and to landowners with an easement agreement for the use of their land as a public trail with the state or a political subdivision. The substitute changes the definition of "trail" to mean any land which was acquired or utilized by the state or a political subdivision for use as a public hiking, biking, or recreational trail.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2005, FY 2006, and FY 2007.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that the expansion of the trail system has been hampered by landowners not entering into easement agreements with the state or political subdivisions because of the threat of civil liability.

Testifying for the bill were Senator Klindt; Missouri Park and Recreation Association; Greater Kansas City Community Foundation; Great Rivers Greenway; and Missouri Farm Bureau.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

Roland Tackett, Legislative Analyst