

HJR 55 -- COMPENSATION AND DISCIPLINE OF PUBLIC OFFICIALS

SPONSOR: Lipke

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass" by the Special Committee on General Laws by a vote of 5 to 0.

This proposed constitutional amendment prohibits, upon voter approval, public officials convicted of felonies while in office, removed from office for misconduct, or impeached from receiving any state pension. The amendment also removes the General Assembly's power of disapproval over the compensation schedule recommended by the Missouri Citizens' Commission on Compensation for Elected Officials and the requirement that the compensation schedule be subject to appropriations. No member of the General Assembly holding office in 2006 will be eligible for a salary increase while serving in the same office.

FISCAL NOTE: Estimated Cost on General Revenue Fund of \$105,120 in FY 2007, \$0 in FY 2008, and FY 2009. No impact on Other State Funds in FY 2007, FY 2008, and FY 2009.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that the bill will give the citizens commission complete authority over salary adjustments for public officials rather than subject the process to a legislative veto. It will also prevent those convicted of a felony while in office or impeached from receiving pensions.

Testifying for the bill was Representative Lipke.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

Jason Glahn, Legislative Analyst