

HCS SB 1165 -- WATER POLLUTION CONTROL FEES

SPONSOR: Klindt (Bivins)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass by consent" by the Special Committee on Energy and Environment by a vote of 10 to 0.

This substitute extends the expiration date in Section 644.054, RSMo, from December 31, 2007, until December 31, 2009, for certain waste treatment and disposal fees authorized in Sections 644.052 and 644.053, collected by the Clean Water Commission.

The President Pro Tem of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives are required to appoint members to a joint committee that will consider the restructuring of the water pollution control fees. The committee must submit a report by December 31, 2008, to the Governor, House of Representatives, and Senate with recommendations on funding the state's Clean Water Program.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2007, FY 2008, and FY 2009.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that the bill is necessary to extend fee deadlines and allow a study on the restructuring of permit fees.

Testifying for the bill were Senator Klindt; Department of Natural Resources; Metropolitan St. Louis Sewer District; and Missouri Association of Municipal Utilities.

OPPONENTS: Those who oppose the bill say that too much money is invested in ensuring the efficiency of the permit process and too little is spent on oversight and environmental regulation.

Testifying against the bill was Sierra Club.

Jason Glahn, Legislative Analyst