

HB 134 -- EQUIPMENT GRANTS FOR UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI ENGINEERING PROGRAMS

SPONSOR: Guest

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass" by the Committee on Higher Education by a vote of 8 to 0.

This bill extends the sunset provision from June 30, 2007, to June 30, 2017, for a capital improvement appropriation request to include engineering equipment grants at the University of Missouri.

FISCAL NOTE: Estimated Cost on General Revenue Fund of Up to \$1,119,600 in FY 2008, Up to \$1,080,000 in FY 2009, and Up to \$1,080,000 in FY 2010. No impact on Other State Funds in FY 2008, FY 2009, and FY 2010.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that engineering programs are very technology-dependent, and employers want graduates who have experience with up-to-date equipment. This appropriation authority was created in 1985 and renewed in 1996.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Guest; American Council of Engineering Companies of Missouri; Missouri Society of Professional Engineers; Larry Hendren; and Walter Vandelicht.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.