

SB 1016 -- BASIC CIVIL LEGAL SERVICES FUND

SPONSOR: Mayer (Pratt)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass by consent" by the Committee on Judiciary by a vote of 10 to 0.

This bill dissolves the Legal Services for Low-Income People Fund and transfers all moneys from the fund to the Basic Civil Legal Services Fund. Twenty-six percent of all future payments deposited into the Tort Victims' Compensation Fund will be transferred into the Basic Civil Legal Services Fund.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2009, FY 2010, and FY 2011.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that the General Assembly earmarked 26% of the money paid into the Tort Victims' Compensation Fund to be paid into the Legal Services for Low-Income People Fund. Since 2004, there have been no further appropriations made to the fund, and no funds have been expended from the fund. The bill is needed to transfer the remaining balance from the inactive fund to the active fund.

Testifying for the bill were Senator Mayer; Legal Services of Eastern Missouri; Legal Services of Southern Missouri; Mid-Missouri Legal Services; and Missouri Bar.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.