

HB 845 -- INTERFERENCE WITH LAWFUL FISHING

SPONSOR: Munzlinger

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass" by the Committee on Agriculture by a vote of 11 to 0.

Currently, courts are allowed to award damages for expenditures incurred by an individual if another person interferes with his or her lawful hunting or trapping activities of a wild animal. This bill adds interference with lawful fishing for which individuals may be awarded damages.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2010, FY 2011, and FY 2012.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that the bill provides greater protection for sport fishermen and fishing tournaments from animal rights activists.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Munzlinger; National Rifle Association of America; and Department of Conservation.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.