

HB 858 -- Missouri Board on Geographic Names

Sponsor: Quinn

This bill establishes the Missouri Board on Geographic Names within the Office of the Secretary of State consisting of 16 members including nine citizens; the director or his or her designee of the departments of Conservation, Natural Resources, and Transportation; the Commissioner of the Office of Administration; the State Archivist; the Executive Director of the State Historical Society; and the Secretary of State who will serve as the chair. The Secretary of State must request a representative from the United States Geological Survey, United States Forest Service, and United States Corps of Engineers to also serve on the board.

The board must:

- (1) Receive and evaluate all proposals for changes in or additions to names of geographic features and places in Missouri to determine the most appropriate and acceptable names for use in maps and official documents of all levels of government;
- (2) Make official recommendations to the United States Board on Geographic Names on behalf of the state with respect to each proposal and assist and cooperate with the federal board in matters relating to names of geographic features and places in the state;
- (3) Assist in the maintenance of a Missouri geographic names database as part of the national database;
- (4) Maintain a list of advisers who have special interest and knowledge in Missouri history, geography, or culture and consult with the advisers on a regular basis;
- (5) Develop and revise state priorities for geographic records projects following guidelines of the federal board; and
- (6) Submit an annual report on its activities.

The board is allowed to apply for state and federal grant programs for the purpose of determining the condition and needs of geographic records and to solicit or develop proposals for the preservation of geographic records and publications of the state.