

HCS SCS SB 100 -- TRANSPORTATION OF RADIOACTIVE WASTE

SPONSOR: Schaefer (Hobbs)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass" by the Special Committee on Infrastructure and Transportation Funding by a vote of 6 to 4.

This substitute requires entities which ship specified types of radioactive waste to be assessed a fee for the transportation of waste through or within the state. State-funded universities will instead pay the State Highway Patrol for the actual cost to escort shipments, and federal government shipments of radioactive materials for military or national defense purposes are exempt.

For truck shipments of radioactive waste, the cost will be \$1,800 per cask with an additional surcharge of \$25 per mile for each mile over 200 that the truck travels in Missouri. Rail shipments of radioactive waste will cost \$1,300 for the first cask and \$125 per cask for each additional cask. Certain low-level radioactive waste shipments will cost only \$125 per truck or train. Fees must be collected by the Department of Natural Resources prior to shipment, and notice to the Governor's designee of a shipment by the shipper must be made pursuant to existing regulations. Failure to pay the fee or provide notice may result in a civil action for an amount not to exceed 10 times the amount assessed and not paid.

The revenue generated from the fees will be deposited into the Environmental Radiation Monitoring Fund, administered by the department, for specified purposes including inspections, escorts, security, emergency response, and oversight. The fund may retain \$300,000 at the end of the fiscal year with any excess being returned to shippers on a pro rata basis based on the shipper's contribution to the fund for that fiscal year.

Beginning December 31, 2009, and every two years thereafter, the department must submit a report to the General Assembly on the costs and income derived from the fee program.

The provisions of the substitute will expire six years from the effective date.

FISCAL NOTE: Estimated Income on General Revenue Fund of \$19,786 to \$46,166 in FY 2010, \$20,288 to \$47,336 in FY 2011, and \$20,801 to \$49,086 in FY 2012. No impact on Other State Funds in FY 2010, FY 2011, and FY 2012.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that Missouri does not charge a fee on radioactive waste shipments, but all of the surrounding states do charge fees. As a result, the state has become a funnel for

cargo radioactive waste carriers.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Hobbs for Senator Schaefer; and Brian Kelly, Brotherhood of Local Engineers.

OPPONENTS: Those who oppose the bill say that the state radiation dosage monitoring regulations are heavily enforced by the federal government.

Testifying against the bill was Missouri Railroad Association.

OTHERS: Others testifying on the bill say Missouri is one of only a few in the nation that does not charge similar fees for radioactive waste shipments. The fees will provide a dedicated funding source to update training for local emergency responders arriving at a radioactive waste accident.

Testifying on the bill was Department of Natural Resources.