SB 126 -- LIFE INSURANCE

SPONSOR: Rupp (Yates)

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

This bill prohibits life insurance companies from denying or refusing to accept an application for life insurance; refusing to renew, cancelling, restricting, or terminating a life insurance policy; or charging a different rate for the same life insurance coverage based on the applicant's past or future lawful travel destinations unless it is based on sound actuarial principles or related to an actual or reasonably anticipated experience. A violation of these provisions will be considered an unfair trade practice and subject to penalties specified in Sections 375.930 - 375.948, RSMo. The provisions of the bill will apply to any life insurance policy issued or renewed on or after August 28, 2009.

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

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that the bill will only affect people who travel and will prevent insurers from arbitrarily making decisions regarding life insurance coverage.

Testifying for the bill was Senator Rupp.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.