

HB 702 -- UNCLAIMED MILITARY MEDALS

SPONSOR: Englund

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass by Consent" by the Committee on Veterans by a vote of 16 to 0.

This bill authorizes the State Treasurer to make specified information, other than Social Security numbers, available to the public regarding military medals in his or her possession that have been deemed to be abandoned property in order to facilitate the identification of the original owner medal recipient or his or her heirs or beneficiaries. The State Treasurer may designate a veterans' organization or other appropriate organization as custodian of military medals until the original owner or his or her respective heirs or beneficiaries are located and to assist in identifying the original owner or his or her heirs or beneficiaries but no person or entity can be designated by the State Treasurer as custodian of military medals, and any agreement under the Uniform Disposition of Unclaimed Property Act in Section 447.581, RSMo, to pay compensation to recover or assist in the recovery of military medals delivered to the State Treasurer is unenforceable.

PROponents: Supporters say that this bill gives the treasurer more tools when attempting to return these medals to their rightful owners or their heirs.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Englund; Office of the State Treasurer; and Randy Scherr.

OPponents: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.