

HCS HB 1728 -- PUBLIC HEALTH ORDERS

SPONSOR: Love

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Committee on Local Government by a vote of 16 to 5.

This bill requires that in any county with both a county commission and a county health center board, each of the entities must be in agreement in order to pass orders, ordinances, rules, or regulations to protect public health and must be in agreement in order to establish fees to pay for the costs of carrying out the orders, ordinances, rules, or regulations.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that this bill is necessary to give county commissions more local control, because the regulations and fees set by some county health boards are too restrictive and too high.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Love and the Missouri Pork Association.

OPPONENTS: Those who oppose the bill say that county commissioners are not health specialists and do not want to be.

Testifying against the bill were Tim Gibbons, Missouri Rural Crisis Center; and the Missouri Association of Counties.

OTHERS: Others testifying on the bill say some health boards are elected and some are appointed; and they do not support regulation of agriculture by either a county commission or a county health board.

Testifying for informational purposes were Jefferson County Health Board; and Missouri Farm Bureau.