

HB 878 -- CORPORATE SECURITY ADVISORS

SPONSOR: Rhoads

COMMITTEE ACTIONS: Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness by a vote of 10 to 0. Voted "Do Pass" by the Select Committee on State and Local Government by a vote of 8 to 0.

This bill specifies that the Director of the Department of Public Safety must have the sole authority to commission corporate security advisors. A person cannot hold a commission as a corporate security advisor without a valid peace officer license. The department director may commission corporate security advisors as he or she deems appropriate taking specified factors into consideration. A licensed corporate security advisor who is not also commissioned by the department must not have the power of arrest for violations of the criminal code.

The department must establish a minimum amount of liability insurance to be provided by a prospective or current employer of the corporate security advisor and require the employer to provide a statement that the corporate security advisor will be included in the policy as a named insured.

The bill specifies that the provisions of the bill are not intended nor must they be construed as a waiver of sovereign immunity or the acknowledgment or creation of any liability on the part of the state for personal injury, death, or property damage. The department and department director must have immunity from civil liability arising out of the commissioning of corporate security advisors under these provisions.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that the St. Louis Board of Police was responsible for commissioning and regulating corporate security advisors. The board has been disbanded so the bill will place the authority to commission and regulate corporate security advisors under the Department of Public Safety.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Rhoads; Richard Zott; Corporate Security Advisors Association; and Michael R. Gibbons.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.