

HB 1428 -- VACANCIES IN ELECTED COUNTY OFFICE

SPONSOR: Muntzel

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Local Government by a vote of 11 to 0. Voted "Do Pass" by the Rules- Administrative Oversight Committee by a vote of 14 to 0.

This bill requires the county commission in all noncharter counties to fill by appointment, within 14 days, a vacancy in a county elected office to serve until the Governor makes an appointment or until the vacancy is filled by operation of another provision of law. In counties with only two county commissioners, when there is the absence of an agreement, the presiding commissioner will make the appointment. The offices of prosecuting attorney and circuit attorney are excluded from this provision.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that this bill helps to avoid situations where a vacancy causes a county office to shut down.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Muntzel; County Commissioners Association of Missouri; and the Missouri Association of Counties.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.