

HB 1892 -- RESIDENCY OF DEPUTY SHERIFFS

SPONSOR: Wilson

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Crime Prevention and Public Safety by a vote of 9 to 0. Voted "Do Pass" by the Rules- Legislative Oversight Committee by a vote of 11 to 0.

Currently, no sheriff in this state can appoint any under sheriff or deputy sheriff unless the person is, at the time of appointment, a bona fide resident of this state. This bill changes the residency requirement to be a bona fide resident of this state or of an adjoining state.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that this would expand the pool of candidates so it will be easier to recruit the best and the brightest. Adjoining states are able to include Missouri residents in their pools, but the same does not apply to Missouri with residents of other states. There are already residents of other states who are licensed officers in this state but they cannot be hired because of current statute.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Wilson; Missouri Police Chiefs Association; Mark Owen, Platte County Sheriffs Department; and Paul Vescovo, Clay County Sheriff Office.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.