

HCS HB 2594 -- CONCESSION AGREEMENTS

SPONSOR: Tate

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Standing Committee on Transportation by a vote of 10 to 1.

This bill authorizes the formation of certain concession agreements using the public and private partnership model under Section 227.615, RSMo, but requiring only agreements between a private party and the governing body of a political subdivision. Any sale of state or county assets is still subject to a vote of the people. Certain conditions for such public-private concession agreements are specified in the bill.

The bill adds stormwater facilities and wastewater systems to the entities under the "Missouri Public-Private Transportation Act" provisions.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that the bill will allow a useful type of public-private project without involving the Department of Transportation which has no interest in the agreement or in any property involved in the agreement.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Tate and Luetkenhaus Properties.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

OTHERS: Others testifying on the bill say that it can be modified to feasibly allow concession agreements that the department has no interest in regulating. Originally, projects regulated under the act were limited to bridges but have expanded over time to include more areas.

Testifying on the bill was the Department of Transportation.