

HCS HB 1473 -- SPECIAL LICENSE PLATES

SPONSOR: Griffith

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Standing Committee on Veterans by a vote of 14 to 0. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules- Administrative Oversight by a vote of 5 to 2.

The following is a summary of the House Committee Substitute for HB 1473.

The bill authorizes a special license plate with the official emblem of the Central Missouri Honor Flight. The license plate requires an annual \$25 contribution for emblem use to Central Missouri Honor Flight. Criteria for the license plate design submitted by Central Missouri Honor Flight are specified in the bill. Previously issued special plates will not bear the Central Missouri Honor Flight emblem unless reauthorized with the \$25 contribution fee.

Any contribution made to Central Missouri Honor Flight under this provision, except reasonable administrative costs, shall be used solely for financial assistance to transport veterans to Washington D.C. to view various veteran memorials. (Section 301.3069, RSMo)

Additionally, this bill authorizes a special license plate for any recipient of the Meritorious Service Medal and provides proof as required by the Department of Revenue. The license plate will require an additional fee equal to the fee charged for personalized license plates. The plates will bear an image of the Meritorious Service Medal with the words "MERITORIOUS SERVICE" in place of the words "SHOW-ME STATE". (Section 301.3159)

The following is a summary of the public testimony from the committee hearing. The testimony was based on the introduced version of the bill.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that while the funding from this bill will not sustain Central Missouri Honor Flight, it will help them fund their efforts. Additionally, it was claimed that the organization has low administrative costs.

Supporters also claimed that the license plate will raise awareness about Central Missouri Honor Flight, its impact, and how the organization funds trips for veterans to see their war memorials in Washington D.C.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Griffith; Central

Missouri Honor Flight; and Hal Dulle.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.