

HB 1572 -- DEAF AWARENESS MONTH AND WEEK

SPONSOR: Barnes

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Special Committee on Tourism by a vote of 8 to 0. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules- Administrative Oversight by a vote of 6 to 0.

This bill designates the month of September as "Deaf Awareness Month" and the last week of September as "Deaf Awareness Week". Citizens are encouraged to commemorate the First World Congress of the World Federation of the Deaf and increase awareness of deaf issues, people, and culture.

This bill is the same as HB 316 (2019).

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that there is a small but vibrant community of deaf and hard of hearing people in Missouri and this recognition would help them to better promote awareness of and support for deaf culture and services to and by persons in the community.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Barnes; Dr. Opeoluwa Sotonwa, Missouri Commission For The Deaf And Hard Of Hearing; Clark H. Corsgenes, Missouri Commission For The Deaf And Hard Of Hearing; and the Center For Hearing And Speech.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.