

HCS HB 1819 -- COURT REPORTERS

SPONSOR: Wood

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Standing Committee on Local Government by a vote of 12 to 0. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules- Legislative Oversight by a vote of 9 to 0.

The following is a summary of the House Committee Substitute for HB 1819.

This bill authorizes the Board of Adjustment to keep records of all testimony, objections thereto, and rulings thereon taken by a certified court reporter, a certified electronic recorder with basic knowledge of court proceedings and terminology who may use any form of audiotape, videotape, or digital recording, or an officer of the court as provided by Supreme Court Rule 57.

Currently, all such records must be taken down by a reporter employed by the board for that purpose, but who is not required to be certified.

Beginning January 1, 2021, each court reporter for a circuit judge with a minimum of 6 years of service shall receive stepped raises based upon his or her years of service as specified in the bill..

This bill is similar to HB 623 (2019).

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 this is a cost-saving measure that has been adopted by other similar offices, boards, and commissions. It is an option, not a requirement.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Wood; Charles R. Pryor, City of Versailles; and Missouri Municipal League.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.