

HCS HB 1960 -- PUBLIC ASSISTANCE BENEFITS FORMS

SPONSOR: Coleman (97)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Standing Committee on General Laws by a vote of 9 to 0. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules- Legislative Oversight by a vote of 10 to 0.

The following is a summary of the House Committee Substitute for HB 1960.

This bill limits the application form for SNAP, TANF, child care assistance, or MO HealthNet to a concise, non-duplicative form that is easily accessible on the Department of Social Services' website.

Additionally, this bill allows participants of these programs who are required to complete a periodic eligibility review form to submit the review form as an attachment to his or her state tax return. Any periodic eligibility review form for these programs must be a concise, non-duplicative form that is easily accessible on the Department of Social Services and the Department of Revenue's website.

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

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that this bill is good for governance and for taxpayers. This bill will help the Department of Social Services with efficiency and will also help streamline the process. Also, pregnancy research centers throughout the state will be able to access these services.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Coleman; Connor Kerrigan, Empower Missouri; Missouri Budget Project; Missouri Community Action Network; National Association of Social Workers-Missouri Chapter; Missouri Catholic Conference; Campaign Life Missouri; and the Children's Trust Fund.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

OTHERS: Others testifying on the bill say they are available for additional information.

Testifying on the bill was Caleb Neeley, Missouri Department of Social Services.