

HB 55 -- MONUMENT PROTECTION

SPONSOR: Schnelting

This bill establishes the "Missouri Monument Preservation Act" to protect monuments displayed on public property. The bill defines a "monument" as a statue, portrait, or marker that was intended to be a permanent memorial of an event, movement, person, or military service and memorializes a part of the history of the state or nation.

This bill specifies that a political subdivision shall not remove or alter any monument without approval of two-thirds of a voting majority at a general election. Additionally, neither the state nor any association or homeowners association that cares for a monument that received an investment of public funds, shall remove or alter a monument without approval from the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation.

Any town, city, or village that violates this provision is subject to a penalty of \$50,000 to be deposited in a historic preservation revolving fund, as specified in the bill. This provision shall be enforced by the Attorney General.

This bill is similar to HB 38 (2020).