

HB 254 -- UNIFORM ELECTRONIC TRANSACTIONS ACT

SPONSOR: Byrd

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass" by the Committee on Judiciary by a vote of 18 to 0.

This bill repeals the current Missouri Digital Signatures Act (Sections 28.600 through 28.678, RSMo) and enacts the provisions of the Uniform Electronic Transactions Act, making electronic transactions as enforceable as traditional paper transactions if the parties agree to transact electronically. There are some exceptions for documents which must still be executed manually, including laws governing the creation and execution of wills, codicils or testamentary trusts, and other provisions of the Uniform Commercial Code.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that the bill is necessary to bring Missouri law into conformity with federal law and the law of more than 40 other states.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Byrd; Missouri Bar Board of Governors; Missouri Land Title Association; and Missouri Association of Realtors.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

Julie Jinkens McNitt, Legislative Analyst