

HB 307 -- MUTUAL-AID AGREEMENTS

CO-SPONSORS: Merideth, Shoemaker (8)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass by consent" by the Committee on Homeland Security and Veterans Affairs by a vote of 16 to 0.

Under current law, any fire department, municipal subdivision, or county must have approval from the Governor before entering into a mutual-aid agreement with other public or private agencies for reciprocal emergency aid.

This bill removes the requirement that the Governor approve these agreements.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that the bill will allow better cooperation among all agencies and municipalities. Most political subdivisions who have mutual-aid agreements are currently not requesting approval from the Governor because they are not aware of the requirement.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Merideth; State Emergency Management Agency; and Missouri Municipal League.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

Steve Bauer, Legislative Analyst