

HB 1437 -- VOLUNTARY COMPLIANCE AUDITS FOR MOTOR CARRIERS

SPONSOR: Sutherland

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass" by the Committee on Transportation and Motor Vehicles by a vote of 17 to 1.

This bill allows motor carriers to elect to have voluntary compliance audits conducted by the Highways and Transportation Commission without incurring liability if the commission discovers deficiencies.

The bill also contains provisions regarding department record keeping, the minimum number of voluntary compliance audits, and the appeals process.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2005, FY 2006, and FY 2007.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that the bill could be very helpful to the trucking industry as it is in need of a tool to help educate truckers on the ever-changing rules and regulations without being penalized.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Sutherland; Missouri Dump Truck Association; Missouri Motor Carriers Association; Tri-County Trucking and Excavation; and Maucum Hauling, Incorporated.

OPPONENTS: Those who oppose the bill say they are afraid it will jeopardize federal funding.

Testifying against the bill was Department of Transportation.

Robert Triplett, Legislative Analyst