

HCS HB 508 -- FUEL STORAGE

SPONSOR: Hoskins (Pratt)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass by consent" by the Special Committee on Urban Issues by a vote of 8 to 0.

Currently, Missouri's laws pre-empt the regulation of various fuels. This substitute allows Jackson County and political subdivisions within the county to regulate or prohibit the installation and placement of fuel storage tanks with a 48,000 gallon or more capacity.

The substitute contains an emergency clause.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2006, FY 2007, and FY 2008.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that large tanks are unsightly, can be a safety hazard to an area, and lower local property values. This issue should be under local control.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Pratt; Carol Tagert; Leonard Jacques; Roy Meier; Edith Jacques; Elton Target; and Emma Lou Meier.

OPPOSERS: Those who oppose the bill say that the current system of control allows the Department of Agriculture to maintain conformity and consistency across the state and within the industry. Larger tanks provide for a more stable pricing; and from a safety point of view, larger tanks seem to have less problems than smaller tanks.

Testifying against the bill were Department of Agriculture; and Missouri Petroleum Marketers and Convenience Store Association.

Robert Triplett, Legislative Analyst