

HCS SCS SB 182 -- LIQUEFIED PETROLEUM GASES

SPONSOR: Scott (Rector)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass by consent" by the Committee on Utilities by a vote of 14 to 0.

Currently, registered liquefied petroleum gas retailers are exempt from liability for actual or punitive damages for any injuries caused by the installation, modification, repair, or servicing of equipment and appliances used with liquefied petroleum gas. This substitute adds to the exemption from liability persons who only sell liquefied petroleum gas in approved containers having a capacity of 50 pounds of propane or less that have been filled by another registered person.

The substitute also requires that every person registered in Missouri pursuant to Chapter 323, RSMo, demonstrate financial responsibility for compensating third parties for bodily injury and property damage caused by the release of liquefied petroleum gas. Financial responsibility may be demonstrated either by self insurance or by obtaining liability insurance in the required amounts of \$1 million per occurrence with an annual aggregate of \$2 million. The provisions of this section become effective January 1, 2006.

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

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that the bill requires liquefied petroleum gas retailers to carry a \$1 million insurance policy; however, some small license retailers are exempt from carrying this coverage.

Testifying for the bill were Senator Scott; and Missouri Propane Association.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

Kristina Jenkins, Legislative Analyst