

HCS SCS SB 252 -- MILITARY FACILITIES

SPONSOR: Koster (Pearce)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass" by the Committee on Veterans Affairs by a vote of 11 to 0.

This substitute establishes the Missouri Military Preparedness and Enhancement Commission to design and implement measures to protect, retain, and enhance the present and future mission capabilities of military posts and bases around the state.

The commission's duties will include preparing a biennial strategic plan and an annual report. The nine-member commission will meet quarterly or more often if additional meetings are deemed necessary by the chair. Funding for the commission will be by appropriation, and the Department of Economic Development will provide administrative support staff.

The governing body or the county planning commission of Johnson County must provide for the planning and zoning within the unincorporated area that extends 3,000 feet outward from the boundaries of Whiteman Air Force Base and the area within the perimeter of accident potential zones one and two.

For the purpose of student resident status, military personnel stationed in Missouri, as well as their spouses and their children younger than 24, will be regarded as Missouri residents.

The substitute contains an emergency clause.

FISCAL NOTE: Estimated Cost on General Revenue Fund of \$11,400 in FY 2006, \$11,742 in FY 2007, and \$12,094 in FY 2008. No impact on Other State Funds in FY 2006, FY 2007, and FY 2008.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that the bill helps protect military installations in Missouri, specifically Whiteman Air Force Base. The bill creates the Military Preparedness and Enhancement Commission to study issues related to base realignment and closures and authorizes Johnson County to control planning and zoning around the base to prevent encroachment, which is a primary reason for base closures. The bill also allows dependents of military personnel to pay in-state tuition at Missouri colleges or universities.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Pearce; and Missouri Municipal League.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

Alice Hurley, Legislative Analyst