

HB 1251 -- EQUIPMENT GRANTS FOR UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI
ENGINEERING PROGRAMS

SPONSOR: Guest

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass by consent" by the Committee on Higher Education by a vote of 8 to 0.

This bill extends the sunset provision from June 30, 2007, to June 30, 2017, for a capital improvement appropriation request to include engineering equipment grants at the University of Missouri.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2007, FY 2008, and FY 2009.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that engineering programs are very technology dependent, and employers want engineering graduates who have experience on the newest equipment. This appropriation authority was created in 1985 and was renewed in 1996.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Guest; University of Missouri; Larry Hendren, MSM-UMR Alumni Association; Walter Vandelight; Missouri Society of Professional Engineers; American Council of Engineering Companies of Missouri; and Associated Students of the University of Missouri.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

Becky DeNeve, Senior Legislative Analyst