

HB 1494 -- LICENSING OF ENGINEERS AND LAND SURVEYORS

SPONSOR: Emery

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass by consent" by the Committee on Professional Registration and Licensing by a vote of 12 to 0.

This bill authorizes the Missouri Board for Architects, Professional Engineers, Professional Land Surveyors and Landscape Architects to issue land surveying and engineering licenses to persons meeting certain criteria specified in the bill.

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

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that current law requires applicants to be at least 50 years old and have 20 years of experience. Many people have the educational background and the 20 years of experience, but still can't apply for a license. The bill just removes the age requirement and allows those who are qualified to apply for a license.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Emery; and Missouri Society of Professional Engineers.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

OTHERS: Others testifying on the bill say an oral exam is not comprehensive enough for applicants, and the board feels there should be a standardized exam which covers all the specialties of engineering.

Others testifying on the bill was Missouri Board for Architects, Professional Engineers, Professional Land Surveyors and Landscape Architects.

Bob Dominique, Legislative Analyst