

HCS HB 1617 & 1374 -- RECREATIONAL USE OF LAND

SPONSOR: Hobbs (McGhee)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass by consent" by the Committee on Conservation and Natural Resources by a vote of 12 to 0.

This substitute changes the restrictions regarding the liability of a landowner who invites or permits persons to use the land for recreational purposes to include state-administered recreational access programs.

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

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that people are trespassing onto another's property and then suing the landowner for injuries that occur on the property. In rural areas of the state, this is becoming a problem. The bill will work to expand existing liability protections to landowners who extend their lands to hunters through recreational access programs.

Testifying for the bill were Representatives McGhee and Munzlinger; Department of Conservation; Conservation Federation of Missouri; and Safari Club International.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

Kristina Jenkins, Legislative Analyst