

HCS HB 1814 -- LANGUAGE OF OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS

SPONSOR: Roark (Nieves)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass" by the Special Committee on General Laws by a vote of 4 to 1.

This substitute requires that English be the language of all official proceedings in Missouri, except those occasions where American Sign Language is used for the purpose of communication or education.

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

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that the bill will ensure the use of English as the official language which will result in simplicity and uniformity for official communications.

Testifying for the bill was Representative Nieves.

OPPOSERS: Those who oppose the bill say that the original bill could prohibit the use of sign language.

Testifying against the bill was Missouri Commission of the Deaf and Hard of Hearing.

Jason Glahn, Legislative Analyst