

HCS HB 135 -- MILITARY FACILITIES AND PERSONNEL

SPONSOR: Day

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass by consent" by the Special Committee on Veterans by a vote of 10 to 0.

This substitute changes the laws regarding military facilities and personnel. In its main provisions, the substitute:

- (1) Allows Johnson County to utilize existing airport zoning regulations but changes the composition of the airport zoning commission and the board of variance; and
- (2) Requires the State Board of Education to establish a rule that will permit the spouse of a United States military member stationed in Missouri who has relocated within one year of application for a Missouri teacher's certificate, is a holder of a valid teacher's license from another state, and has undergone a background check through the other state's licensing process to receive a provisional license for immediate assumption of classroom duties pending completion of a Missouri background check.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2008, FY 2009, and FY 2010.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that the bill helps military families by making children who have completed a kindergarten or pre-kindergarten program in another state exempt from the kindergarten birthday cutoff. The bill will ease teacher shortages by allowing spouses of members of the military to teach while their background checks are pending. In order to keep a military installation in Johnson County, the county commission needs to have some planning and zoning authority around Whiteman Air Force Base airport hazard area.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Pearce; Scott Sader, Johnson County Eastern District Commissioner; Mike Haynes, Whiteman Area Leadership Council; Tom Kirber, Warrensburg School Board; Greater Warrensburg Area Chamber of Commerce and Visitors Center; and Johnson County Economic Development Corporation.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.