

HCS HB 181 -- ELECTRONIC VIDEO INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS

SPONSOR: Kingery (Sander)

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

Beginning January 1, 2008, this substitute requires closed or open captioning on electronic video instructional materials, as specified in the substitute, designed for use in educational institutions. Exceptions are made for certain materials and transmission methods.

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

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that signing the content of a movie in a darkened classroom for a deaf person who has a sign-language interpreter is awkward and disruptive. Captions are invaluable, not just for the hearing-impaired, but also for beginning readers and people who are learning English.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Sander; Missouri Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing; Larry Hoard; Kim Davis; Paraquad; and Southwest Center for Independent Living.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.