

HB 352 -- STATE PURCHASING AND PRINTING

SPONSOR: Hobbs

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass" by the Special Committee on General Laws by a vote of 8 to 0.

This bill increases the current five-point bonus bidding preference given by the Commissioner of the Office of Administration to a 10-point bonus for products and services manufactured, purchased, or assembled in qualified nonprofit organizations for the blind and in sheltered workshops if the nonprofit organization provides the greater of 2% or \$5,000 of the total contract for purchases not exceeding \$10 million.

For Fiscal Year 2008, the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education will pay each sheltered workshop \$65 per standard work week worked by a handicapped employee and \$13 per standard work day for work performed by handicapped employees in excess of the standard work week. For Fiscal Year 2009, the weekly per-worker amount is increased to \$75 and the daily per-worker amount to \$15; for Fiscal Year 2010, \$85 per week and \$17 per day; and for Fiscal Year 2011 and thereafter, \$90 per week and \$18 per day.

FISCAL NOTE: Estimated Effect on General Revenue Fund of an income of \$9,945 in FY 2008, a cost of \$2,854,980 in FY 2009, and a cost of \$5,709,960 in FY 2010. Estimated Cost on Other State Funds of \$9,945 in FY 2008, \$0 in FY 2009, and \$0 in FY 2010.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that the bill allows sheltered workshops to bid contracts under the minority bidding process. The weekend per-diem will reduce the budgetary stress on sheltered workshops since 15%-25% of rural workshop budgets pay by per-diems. The bill creates opportunities for the workshops to meet financial challenges and maintain their staffing levels.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Hobbs; Missouri Association of Sheltered Workshop Managers; Department of Elementary and Secondary Education; Bellefontaine Parent Association; Greater St. Louis Parent Association; Missouri Voice of the Retarded; and Mental Retardation Association of Missouri.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.