

HCS HB 923 -- ST. LOUIS BOARD OF POLICE COMMISSIONERS

SPONSOR: Hubbard (Kratky)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass" by the Special Committee on Urban Issues by a vote of 6 to 0.

This substitute allows the St. Louis Board of Police Commissioners to delegate part of its jurisdiction to hearing officers. At the discretion of the board, a hearing officer may preside over disciplinary matters, prepare reports to the board, and make recommendations on the disciplinary matter and the appropriateness of the recommended discipline. The board will retain the authority to make the final decision after a review of the evidence and the report of the hearing officer.

The substitute specifies the process by which a hearing officer is selected.

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

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that the bill will help commissioners perform their duties more efficiently.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Kratky; and Chris Godson, St. Louis Board of Police Commissioners.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

OTHERS: Others testifying on the bill say that they support the changes recommended by law enforcement officials in the substitute.

Testifying on the bill was St. Louis Police Officers' Association.