

HCS SB 376 -- FINANCIAL IMPACT ON TOURISM

SPONSOR: Griesheimer (Wood)

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

Currently, the Division of Tourism Supplemental Revenue Fund will expire on June 30, 2010. This substitute extends the expiration date to June 30, 2015.

School districts in the counties declared a federal disaster area after the January 2007 ice storms do not have to make up any lost time. School districts in counties not included in the federal disaster area that have missed eight or more days due to inclement weather during the 2006-2007 school year are not required to make up six of those days, and the requirement for scheduling two-thirds of the missed days into next year's school calendar is waived for the 2007-2008 school year. These provisions do not apply to the Nixa R-II School District.

The substitute contains an emergency clause.

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

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that the Division of Tourism is funded exclusively by the moneys in the Tourism Supplemental Revenue Fund; and if it expires, there will be no funding for tourism in Missouri, which is very important to the state's economy.

Testifying for the bill were Senator Griesheimer; Missouri Economic Development Council; Missouri Chamber of Commerce and Industry; and Missouri Travel Council.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.