

HB 1422 -- UNIFIED CARRIER REGISTRATIONS

SPONSOR: St. Onge

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

This bill authorizes the Highways and Transportation Commission to take the necessary steps to implement and administer a state plan to conform with the federal Unified Carrier Registration (UCR) Act of 2005. The UCR Act eliminates the state's registration system and replaces it with the federal UCR Agreement.

The commission may submit to the proper federal authorities, amend, and carry out a state plan to qualify as a base-state and to participate in the UCR Program and administer the UCR Agreement. The commission is authorized to administer the registration of Missouri domiciled motor carriers, motor private carriers, brokers, freight forwarders and leasing companies, and persons domiciled in nonparticipating states who have designated Missouri as their base-state under the UCR Act; to receive, collect, process, deposit, transfer, distribute, and refund registration fees; and to enter into an agreement with any United States agency.

Every motor carrier, motor private carrier, broker, and freight forwarder and leasing company that has its principal place of business in Missouri and every person who has designated this state as his or her base-state must timely complete and file with the commission all the forms and registration fees required by the UCR Program.

Implementing the UCR Act will not be construed as exempting any motor carrier or any person controlled by a motor carrier from any state regulation regarding motor carriers.

The bill also repeals provisions regarding the issuance of interstate motor carrier permits.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2009, FY 2010, and FY 2011.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that federal legislation, enacted in August 2005, created the UCR Program and required it to replace the Single State Registration Program which Missouri operates. The bill will allow the Department of Transportation to participate in the UCR Program and to continue collecting regulatory license fees from Missouri motor carriers. Annual registration fees collected are approximately \$2.3 million.

Testifying for the bill were Representative St. Onge; Department of Transportation; and Missouri Motor Carriers Association.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.