

HCS SB 480 -- STATE BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

SPONSOR: Shoemyer (Quinn)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass" by the Special Committee on General Laws by a vote of 6 to 5.

This substitute renames the Second State Capitol Commission the Missouri State Capitol Commission and requires it to evaluate and approve capitol studies and improvement, expansion, renovation, and restoration projects to be paid for with funds appropriated from the Second Capitol Commission Fund which is renamed the State Capitol Commission Fund and initiate planning efforts, subject to appropriations, for a centennial celebration of the laying of the capstone of the State Capitol. Members of the commission representing the General Assembly must be appointed by the President Pro Tem of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

The substitute also establishes in statute the Missouri Board on Geographic Names within the Office of the Secretary of State. The board must:

- (1) Receive and evaluate all proposals for changes in or additions to names of geographic features and places in Missouri to determine the most appropriate and acceptable names for use in maps and official documents of all levels of government;
- (2) Make official recommendations to the United States Board on Geographic Names on behalf of the state with respect to each proposal and assist and cooperate with the federal board in matters relating to names of geographic features and places in the state;
- (3) Assist in the maintenance of a Missouri geographic names database as part of the national database;
- (4) Maintain a list of advisers who have special interest and knowledge in Missouri history, geography, or culture and consult with the advisers on a regular basis;
- (5) Develop and revise state priorities for geographic records projects following guidelines of the federal board; and
- (6) Submit an annual report to the General Assembly on its activities.

The board is allowed to apply for state and federal grant programs for the purpose of determining the condition and needs of geographic records and to solicit or develop proposals for the

preservation of geographic records and publications of the state.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2010, FY 2011, and FY 2012.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that the board will help create databases of important features useful to homeland security and for map makers. Geographic names must be standardized for many purposes including legal property descriptions.

Testifying for the bill were Senator Shoemyer; and Missouri Board on Geographic Names, Office of the Secretary of State.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.