

HCS HB 1943 -- MISSOURI MILITARY FAMILY RELIEF FUND

SPONSOR: Day (McGhee)

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

Currently, a command sergeants major of the Missouri National Guard and a command sergeants major of a reserve unit are members of the panel which establish the criteria for awarding grants from the Missouri Military Family Relief Fund. This substitute allows a sergeant major or a command sergeant major from the National Guard and a reserve unit to serve on the panel.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2011, FY 2012, and FY 2013.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that because there are so few command sergeant majors, it is extremely difficult to find individuals to serve on the panel, prohibiting the release of funds. By allowing sergeant majors to serve on the panel, there are more qualified candidates to choose from.

Testifying for the bill were Representative McGhee; Dewey Rhein, Missouri Association of Veterans Organizations and the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, Missouri Department; Dennis Sanbothe, Missouri National Guard; and Larry Kay, Missouri Veterans Commission.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.