HB 1992 -- Law Enforcement Safety Fund

Sponsor: Fischer (107)

This bill creates the Law Enforcement Safety Fund and authorizes, beginning August 28, 2010, a \$7 surcharge to be collected and deposited into the fund in each criminal case involving a violation of any county ordinance, criminal or traffic law including infractions, or municipal ordinance. The General Assembly and county governing bodies cannot appropriate moneys for deposit into the fund, but the fund may accept gifts, donations, grants, and bequests. A seven-member board will administer the fund to be composed of two chiefs of police who are members of the Missouri Police Chiefs' Association, two full-time police officers or deputy sheriffs who are members of a state fraternal order of police, one sheriff, one member of the General Assembly from the Joint Committee on Public Employee Retirement, and one at-large member. The initial appointments will be made by the Governor with the consent of the Senate with future members selected as specified in the bill.

The fund will be administered as a defined contribution system allowing any member of the system to receive the funds he or she contributes plus the interest or dividends earned less any maintenance fees. Eligibility for membership to the system is limited to full-time Missouri law enforcement employees except sheriffs from St. Louis City. Members with the required years of service will also be eligible to receive funds accumulated through the collection of surcharges. No member will be able to receive benefits from the system prior to reaching 55 years of age, and any benefits received from the system will not affect an officer's eligibility for benefits under any other retirement plan.