

HB 484 -- MISSOURI STATE TRANSIT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

SPONSOR: Faith

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass by consent" by the Committee on Transportation Funding and Public Institutions by a vote of 9 to 0.

This bill establishes the Missouri State Transit Assistance Program to be administered by the Department of Transportation to provide financial assistance to defray the operating and capital costs incurred by public mass transportation service providers. The distribution of any appropriated funds must be determined by evaluating certain factors of each service provider including population, ridership, cost and efficiency of the program, availability of alternative transportation in the area, and local effort or tax support.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2012, FY 2013, and FY 2014.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that the bill allows the Department of Transportation to formalize a program and establish rules in order to provide financial assistance for public mass transportation. Currently, funding is down. If the economy improves, it could lead to additional funding.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Faith; Department of Transportation; Deanna Borland; and Springfield City Utilities.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.