SPONSOR: Johnson

This bill establishes the Missouri Business Recruiters Act to create employment positions for business recruiters to attract out-of-state business owners and companies to Missouri. A business recruiter will receive compensation for any jobs that are relocated into Missouri equal to 2% of the withholding tax that is collected from the relocated jobs and is subject to specified restrictions. The relocated job must pay wages that meet or exceed the average pay in the county to which the job is relocated, be maintained for at least one year, and be a full-time position requiring at least 2,000 hours per year and 160 hours per month for at least 10 months per year.

The Department of Economic Development must administer the program and create a business recruiter application process. Any private contracted business recruiter must apply to become a Missouri business recruiter under guidelines developed by the department. The Department of Revenue must withhold 2% of the withholding taxes for each new job created under the program and deposit the withheld funds into the newly created Missouri Business Recruiters Fund. The Office of Administration must advertise the position of business recruiter in the same manner as any other job opening or business procurement.

The provisions of the bill will expire four years after the effective date.