HB 1150 -- MODEL LEGISLATION TRANSPARENCY

SPONSOR: Morgan

This bill requires any legislation that is filed in Missouri and previously adopted as or substantially similar to model legislation by an organization to identify the organization that formally adopted the model legislation in the fiscal note. A State Senator or State Representative must provide the information to the Oversight Division of the Committee on Legislative Research for the identification required by these provisions. If the legislation is not identified as model legislation, a third party may request that disclosure of the source of the model legislation be added to the fiscal note by submitting a request with documentation of the model legislation to the chair of the committee to which the bill is assigned. The chair has 10 days to rule on the request. The decision of the committee chair can be appealed to the Rules, Joint Rules, Resolutions and Ethics Committee in the Senate or to the Rules Committee in the House.

The bill requires an organization that adopts and distributes model legislation to any State Senator or State Representative to register as a lobbyist, unless the organization is made up solely of individuals elected or appointed to a position in state government or the organization has a lobbyist registered with Missouri.

Any lobbyist representing an organization under these provisions must report to the Missouri Ethics Commission:

a) The name of each State Senator or State Representative serving as a member, staff member, or in the leadership of the organization;

b) The name of each State Senator or State Representative attending any conference, meeting, or event where the model legislation was distributed;

c) The amount of compensation, scholarship funds, money, or other financial support paid to or on behalf of any State Senator or State Representative for attendance at the functions;

d) The name of any entity or individual that contributed to the compensation, scholarship fund, money, or other financial support of any State Senator or State Representative;

e) A copy of the program for the function where the model legislation was distributed and a copy of the model legislation; and

f) A financial interest statement of any person or entity that voted to adopt the model legislation.

Any State Senator or State Representative who receives compensation for attending a function under these provisions must report the compensation as a gift or honorarium.