

HB 1622 -- JURISDICTION OVER AN INTERSTATE PROJECT IN THIRD CLASS COUNTIES

SPONSOR: Fitzpatrick

This bill allows the General Assembly to approve the construction of new 355 kilovolt electric transmission lines approved by the Arkansas Public Service Commission. The construction begins and ends in Arkansas and involves Route 109 in parts of the counties of McDonald and Barry. The Arkansas Public Service Commission designated Route 109 as reasonable because of its "lesser impact on residential areas and lesser aesthetic impact" to Arkansas residents and the General Assembly declares to have sole jurisdiction to approve or disapprove the construction.

The bill specifies that the General Assembly will have sole jurisdiction over construction of any electric transmission line that begins and ends in a single state other than Missouri and passes through certain areas in the counties of McDonald and Barry specified in bill. The General Assembly must ensure that they are constructed for a legitimate public purpose and protect the health, safety, and welfare of Missouri residents. Permission to construct additional projects may be granted by legislation including an interstate agreement.

The bill contains an emergency clause.