HB 1647 -- PRIVATE PROPERTY RIGHTS

SPONSOR: Moon

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Committee on Downsizing State Government by a vote of 8 to 3.

This bill prohibits the State of Missouri and all political subdivisions from adopting or implementing policy recommendations that infringe or restrict private property rights without due process as may be required by policy recommendations originating in or traceable to Agenda 21, adopted by the United Nations, or any other international law or ancillary plan of action that conflicts with the Constitution of the United States or the Missouri Constitution. Agenda 21 is a non-binding action plan regarding sustainable development adopted by the United Nations in 1992 at its Conference on Environment and Development.

The State of Missouri and any political subdivision are also prohibited from entering into any agreement with, expending any sum of money for, receiving funds from, contracting services from, or giving financial aid to nongovernmental and intergovernmental organizations as defined in Agenda 21.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that the bill will protect the private property rights of citizens. Agenda 21 is a thick document. It has not been ratified in the United States; however, in 1992, Clinton issued an executive order that created a council that examined Agenda 21 and put pieces of Agenda 21 in a document that agencies must comply with.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Moon; Todd Skelton; Phillip Todd; and Missouri Family Network.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.