

HCS HB 2050 -- ACQUIRING STATE ASSETS

SPONSOR: Curtman

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Committee on Downsizing State Government by a vote of 13 to 0.

This bill requires the State Vehicle Fleet Manager to develop and coordinate the implementation of a statewide vehicle fleet cost efficiency plan to ensure continuing progress toward statewide overall cost reduction in government vehicle costs. The bill specifies the information that the plan must include.

Each state agency that owns or leases vehicles must develop, implement, and submit to the fleet manager a vehicle fleet cost efficiency plan for its agency. The plan must include agency goals and statistics and a report of agency progress.

This bill requires the Commissioner of Administration, after consultation with the State Courts Administrator, to procure a blanket bond or crime insurance policy as he or she deems necessary to protect the state against loss from the acts or omissions of any state-compensated person within the judiciary. Currently, the commissioner must procure surety bonds as required by statute and that he or she deems necessary after consultation with the administrator.

The commissioner may require a bond and fix the amount of the bond of any officer, employee, or agent of the state who has responsibility for or access to any money or property belonging to the state or in which the state may have an interest and who is not otherwise required by law to give a bond.

In lieu of individual bonds, the commissioner may elect to procure one or more blanket bonds or suitable crime insurance policies endorsed to include faithful performance or elect to assume the risk for any or all officers and employees of the state. Any bond or policy procured must contain the coverages, terms, conditions, coverage limits, and deductibles as the commissioner deems adequate to protect the interests of the state but not less than the aggregate coverage limits otherwise required by law. The procurement must constitute compliance with any law requiring any officer or employee of the state to be bonded. The costs of any blanket bond, crime insurance policy, or self-assumption program must be paid from the State Legal Expense Fund.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that this bill requires the state fleet and vehicle manager to implement a cost efficient plan. This would result in a state wide cost savings. Currently, not all agencies

report to MODOT, and a lot of reports do not require standardization. This would have an easy to read standard for reporting.

Testifying for the bill was Representative Curtman.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

OTHERS: Others testifying on the bill say the Office of Administration has a program that they can enter information into to determine if it is more cost-effective to use a fleet vehicle, have the employee use their own car and pay the state mileage rate, or rent a car.

Testifying on the bill was Brett Berri, Office of Administration.