

HB 175 -- REGULATION OF AGRICULTURAL INPUTS

SPONSOR: Reiboldt

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Agriculture Policy by a vote of 6 to 4. Voted "Do Pass" by the Committee on Rules- Legislative Oversight by a vote of 7 to 2.

This bill prohibits any political subdivision from adopting or enforcing any ordinance, rule, or regulation relating to the labeling cultivation, or other use of seed, fertilizers, or soil conditioners. The provisions of the bill do not apply to any ordinance, rule, or regulation enacted before August 28, 2017.

This bill is the same as SB 77 (2017).

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that this bill would ensure that all residents of Missouri have the same ability to use fertilizers on their crops and fields. Political subdivisions are already prohibited from adopting ordinances, rules, or regulations relating to pesticides. This would do the same for fertilizers.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Reiboldt; Missouri Agribusiness Association; Missouri Corn Growers Association; Missouri Soybean Association; Missouri Farm Bureau; and Missouri Cattlemens Association.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

OTHERS: Others testifying on the bill say there are mandates from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency that require municipalities to implement measures to control stormwater and pollutants. By prohibiting political subdivisions from adopting ordinances relating to fertilizer, the municipalities would have one less tool to meet these mandates.

Testifying on the bill was the Missouri Municipal League.