

HB 538 -- STATE PROPERTY EASEMENTS

SPONSOR: Fitzwater (144)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Corrections and Public Institutions by a vote of 11 to 0. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules- Legislative Oversight by a vote of 13 to 0.

This bill allows for the granting of easements by the state or any department, division, commission, board or agency of state government for the purpose of accommodating utilities, rights of access, ingress and egress on or to state property, or to facilitate the construction, location, relocation, or use of any common elements of condominium property when the state is a unit owner within the development without authorization of the General Assembly.

This bill is the same as HB 2120 (2016).

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that we should be giving the Office of Administration a little more authority to grant easements in times of urgency without the approval of the General Assembly. This bill is not meant as a way to keep the General Assembly from being informed of such easements.

Testifying for the bill was Representative Fitzwater.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.