

HB 1355 -- RETIRED PEACE OFFICERS

SPONSOR: Phillips

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass by Consent" by the Standing Committee on Crime Prevention and Public Safety by a vote of 8 to 0. Voted "Do Pass- Consent" by the Consent and House Procedure Committee by a vote of 11 to 1.

This bill establishes that any law enforcement agency in the state may supplement its workforce as necessary with qualified retired peace officers when a disaster or emergency has been declared by the Governor or when there is a national emergency, and those officers shall serve as volunteers. Retirees assisting law enforcement agencies under these circumstances shall be in compliance with the annual firearms training and qualification standards, established by the Department of Public Safety, for retired law enforcement officers carrying concealed firearms.

Any compensation awarded to retirees for service under this bill shall be paid by the law enforcement agency the retired officer is assisting.

This bill is similar to HB 645 (2017).

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that in times of national emergency or when the Governor declares a state emergency, retirees can come back and volunteer at their departments as long as the retirees are up to date with their firearms training.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Phillips and the Missouri Troopers Association.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.