

HB 1427 -- MISSOURI VETERANS' HERITAGE PROTECTION ACT

SPONSOR: Love

This bill establishes the Missouri Veterans' Heritage Protection Act, which prohibits any agency, political subdivision, or entity with the power of eminent domain from relocating, renaming, rededicating, erecting, modifying, or removing any state historic military monument, memorial, or marker, any designated veterans' grave marker, or any statutorily designate monument or memorial located on any site under its control or located on state land listed on the Missouri Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's registry without first holding a public hearing and receiving the council's approval. The Department of Natural Resources must publish a public hearing notice in the Missouri Register at least 60 days in advance of any action to seek the council's approval. The notice must also be published once a week for two consecutive weeks in any qualified newspaper in the area where the monument is located.

These requirements do not apply to any agency, political subdivision, or entity responsible for maintaining such markers or memorials for protection, preservation, care, repair, or restoration, or to actions taken by the Department of Transportation.

Any decision made by the council may be appealed and reviewed by the Joint Committee on Administrative Rules.

Any person who knowingly vandalizes, defaces, or otherwise damages such memorial or marker is guilty of a class E felony.

This bill is similar to HB 53 (2017).