

HB 1454 -- OFFICIAL STATE FRUIT TREE

SPONSOR: May

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Special Committee on Tourism by a vote of 10 to 0. Voted "Do Pass" by the Rules-Legislative Oversight Committee by a vote of 12 to 0.

This bill designates the pawpaw tree as the fruit tree of Missouri.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that naming the pawpaw tree as the official state fruit tree began last year as a school project. The pawpaw is a delicious fruit that grows wild in Missouri. There are current efforts in the state to grow pawpaws for commercial sale.

Testifying for the bill were Representative May and Mary Mcdevitt, Margaret Mcpheeters, Meera Wolfgram, Jeremy Plax, Luke Giles, Alex Mccarter, Ben Koster, Kullan Padma, Kian Egtesady, Luke Wittman Jarboe, Joey Garcia Dominguez, and Ella Lazaroff, New City School.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

OTHERS: Others testifying on the bill say the pawpaw tree is the most prevalent fruit tree in Missouri.

Testifying on the bill was the Missouri Department of Conservation.