

HCS HB 2097 -- TRASH COLLECTION SERVICES ACT

SPONSOR: Brattin

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Special Committee on Government Oversight by a vote of 7 to 3.

This bill establishes the "Freedom to Choose Trash Collection Services Act" which requires voter approval of any contract with a mandated hauler of residential solid waste collection in any city, town, or village except North Kansas City, Kansas City, St. Louis City, St. Louis County, or cities that own their own trash trucks and provide trash services.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that the bill will encourage competition and allow voters the chance to decide whether or not to enter into a binding service contract with a single company.

Testifying for the bill was Representative Brattin.

OPPONENTS: Those who oppose the bill say that it may disfavor small trash companies that do not have their own landfills and must pay larger companies gate fees to deposit waste. City councils generally make good deals for their communities and should have authority over contracts for trash service.

Testifying against the bill were City of Lee's Summit; Municipal League Metro St. Louis; Pat Watkins, R & W Container; City of Kirksville; and the Missouri Municipal League.