

HB 705 -- PROHIBITED USE OF OCCUPATIONAL FEES

SPONSOR: Helms

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Professional Registration and Licensing by a vote of 10 to 2. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules- Administrative Oversight by a vote of 6 to 2.

This bill prohibits any licensure board, commission, or committee within the Division of Professional Registration from using any occupational fees for the purpose of offering continuing education classes.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that a board offering continuing education classes is outside the mission statement of the board, it gives the board a conflict of interest when evaluating continuing education, and it requires a portion of licensees to pay, through their fees, for classes that they will never use.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Helms; Chuck Hollister, Missouri Psychological Association; Paul T. Korte, PhD; Brittany Pratt, PsyD; Curtis Mattson, PsyD, MBA; Adam Andreassean, PsyD, National Psychology Training Consortium; and the National Association of Social Workers, Missouri Chapter.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

OTHERS: Others testifying on the bill say that three boards currently offer continuing education and offering continuing education classes allows the board to educate licensees on current issues or changes in law.

Testifying on the bill was the Missouri Division of Professional Registration.