

HCS HB 1168 -- HOURS WORKED GOVERNMENT COMPUTERS

SPONSOR: Taylor

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Standing Committee on Downsizing State Government by a vote of 6 to 2. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules- Legislative Oversight by a vote of 5 to 3.

This bill requires any contract in excess of \$100,000 entered into with a state agency for professional or technical services to be performed using a computer to use a work verification software program to verify the hours billed for work done on a computer. The contract shall further specify that the state shall not be required to pay for hours worked on a computer unless those hours are verifiable by the software or by data collected by the software. The bill contains various exemptions.

This bill is the same as SB 463 (2019).

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that this bill will make contractors that contract with the state more accountable. By tracking the computers agencies can make sure they are getting billed for the hours worked on a computer.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Taylor and Mark Burtschi, Transparent Business Inc.

OPPONENTS: Those who oppose the bill say that this is a single vendor that is marketing this product and the language is written narrow to only allow them to be able to do this. There is a privacy concern that this company would have access to private information. No other state has passed this legislation and they have tried in several states.

Testifying against the bill were MO Society of Professional Engineers; American Council of Engineering Companies; Missouri Association of Landscape Architects; and Kathy Harness, American Institute Of Architects Of Missouri.

OTHERS: Others testifying on the bill say that contractors are questioning if this is a breach of their cyber security laws and what if information is not redacted. There are a lot of questions that have not been answered.

Testifying on the bill was Rick Kliethermes, Office of Administration Information Technology Services Division.