

HCS HB 2120 -- WATER SAFETY AND SECURITY

SPONSOR: Kidd

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Special Committee on Homeland Security by a vote of 7 to 0. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules- Administrative Oversight by a vote of 4 to 3.

The following is a summary of the House Committee Substitute for HCS HB 2120.

This bill specifies that within one year, every public water system in the state that uses an Internet-connected control system must create a plan that establishes policies and procedures for identifying and mitigating cyber risk. All public water systems must also create a valve inspection and a hydrant inspection program as specified in the bill and must submit a report upon the request of the Department of Natural Resources that certifies compliance with regulations regarding water quality sampling, testing, reporting, hydrant and valve inspections, and cyber security plans.

These requirements do not apply to cities with a population of more than 30,000 inhabitants, Jackson or St. Louis counties.

This bill is the same as HCS HB 801 (2019).

The following is a summary of the public testimony from the committee hearing. The testimony was based on the introduced version of the bill.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that this bill will help small communities prepare for disasters and other threats to the water supply by forcing advance preparation.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Kidd; Lynne Schlosser, Missouri American Water.

OPPONENTS: Those who oppose the bill say that they are not opposed to the bill in theory, but that it should be in regulation, not statute and that it will be hard for many communities to comply, so flexibility will be important.

Testifying against the bill was Harry Hill, Mo Rural Water Association.

OTHERS: Others testifying on the bill say they object to its application to Public Service Commission regulated utilities.

Testifying on the bill was David Woodsmall, Midwest Engery Consumers Group.