HCS HB 519 -- LANDOWNER LIABILITY

SPONSOR: Knight

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Special Committee on Litigation Reform by a vote of 8 to 0. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules- Legislative Oversight by a vote of 9 to 0.

The following is a summary of the House Committee Substitute for HB 519.

The bill specifies that a landowner is not liable for injuries a trespasser receives while on the landowner's residential area, if such area is adjacent to a park or trail and that is how the trespasser entered the owner's property.

This bill is similar to HB 573 (2021) and HB 2181 (2020).

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 expands the fairness and protection to landowners who live adjacent to parks inside corporate boundaries. Landowners who live near parks and trails in these areas have frequent trespassers on their land and should not be taken advantage of by any trespassers who try to claim injury or damages by being on the landowner's property.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Knight; Missouri Farm Bureau; Missouri Insurance Coalition; Missouri Park And Recreation Association; and the Conservation Federation of Missouri.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.