

HB 771 -- CERTAIN STATE AGENCIES

SPONSOR: Andrews

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Economic Development by a vote of 9 to 0. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules- Legislative Oversight by a vote of 10 to 0.

This bill changes references to several state agencies due to the reorganization of such state agencies by executive order. The following changes are included:

- (1) Certain references to the Department of Economic Development now reference the Department of Natural Resources;
- (2) Certain references to the Department of Economic Development now reference the Department of Higher Education and Workforce Development;
- (3) Certain references to the Director of the Department of Economic Development now reference the Commissioner of Higher Education;
- (4) Changes a reference to the Division of Purchasing to the Office of Equal Opportunity;
- (5) Certain references to the Department of Insurance, Financial Institutions and Professional Registration now reference the Department of Commerce and Insurance;
- (6) The Public Service Commission is assigned by type III transfer to the Department of Commerce and Insurance;
- (7) The Office of Public Counsel is transferred by type III transfer to the Department of Commerce and Insurance;
- (8) Certain sections in Chapter 620 relating to job training and the Missouri Workforce Development Board are now in Chapter 173, RSMo; and
- (9) A section in Chapter 620 relating to the Department of Natural Resources' duties as to certain energy activities is now in Chapter 640.

This bill is similar to SB 114 (2021), SB 1045 and HB 2515 (2020).

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that Governor Parson reorganized agencies in 2019 by transferring many organizations from the

Department of Economic Development to other agencies. This bill fixes where the agencies currently are in law and updates law to place programs under appropriate statutes.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Andrews; Arnie Dienoff; Missouri Department of Higher Education and Workforce Development; Missouri Department of Economic Development; Public Service Commission; Missouri Department of Natural Resources; Missouri Department of Commerce and Insurance.

OPPONENTS: Those who oppose the bill submitted online written testimony.

Testifying against the bill was Jasmine Wilson.

Written testimony has been submitted for this bill. The full written testimony can be found under Testimony on the bill page on the House website.