

HB 836 -- ARTICLE V CONVENTION APPOINTMENTS

SPONSOR: Trent

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on General Laws by a vote of 11 to 4. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules- Legislative Oversight by a vote of 7 to 2 with 1 voting Present.

This bill creates procedures to appoint commissioners to any convention called under Article V of the Constitution of the United States. A joint legislative committee is created to recommend names and submit recommended instructions for commissioners to a convention with such recommended appointments and instructions subject to approval by the General Assembly.

This bill is the same as SB 231 (2021).

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that this bill is necessary to establish guidelines if a convention is held. The bill helps address poor governing and puts Missouri in the lead. The representation will be diverse and aimed at helping Missouri.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Trent; Brad Hohenstreet; Convention of States Project; Joe Widmer; Myra Wolf; Patti Siegel; Rosendo Martinez; Shari Dinkins; Vivian Gontarz; Dan Ladd; and Keith Carmichael.

OPPONENTS: Those who oppose the bill say that there is still not a clear understanding of how the convention will look. There are no checks on the convention proceedings. This bill will result in minority viewpoints not being heard.

Testifying against the bill were Arnie Dienoff; Sierra Club Missouri Chapter; and American Civil Liberties Union of Missouri.

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.