

HB 904 -- HIGHWAY PATROL RECORD REQUEST FEES

SPONSOR: Ruth

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Public Safety by a vote of 10 to 0.

Where there are allowable fees of less than \$5 for records requests under Chapter 43 or Chapter 610, RSMo, the State Highway Patrol is authorized to charge a minimum fee of \$5. The superintendent of the Highway Patrol may increase the minimum fee by \$1 every other year, but the minimum fee must not exceed \$10. If a person requesting records fails to remit all fees within 30 days of the Highway Patrol requesting payment of the fees for the records, the records request will be considered withdrawn.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that disseminating information from the Highway Patrol is \$4.90 for a report, but the report now has to be found, manually printed, and copied but by raising the price by \$.10 they can do it electronically. Arkansas has a fee of \$10 and Illinois has a different one for e-check, and Kansas has a minimum \$5 fee as well. It is a customer service effort for electronic modernization, and it will help victims of crashes to access records more easily. Timely information is essential to handle claims so people can move forward with claims. It could reduce some costs since this could help expedite claims.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Ruth; Bridget Briggs, Lashly & Baer, PC; Missouri Insurance Coalition; and Collin Stosberg, Missouri State Highway Patrol.

OPPOSERS: Those who oppose the bill submitted written testimony, which can be found online.

Testifying against the bill were Jean Maneke, The Maneke Law Group, L.C., For Missouri Press Association; Missouri Press Association; and Arnie C. Dienoff.

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.