

HCS HB 921 -- HOUSING DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

SPONSOR: Riggs

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" 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.

The following is a summary of the House Committee Substitute for HB 921.

This bill requires that in agreements with the Missouri Housing Development Commission or if granting state funds, tax credits, or financing or assistance under Sections 215.010 to 215.250, RSMo., the Commission will require that, all other factors being equal, former school buildings be given preference for development.

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 there are numerous empty school buildings across the state. These buildings were built to last, they are already handicap accessible, and they were built in communities. It naturally makes sense to use these structures for affordable housing in communities. Demolishing these structures does not make sense when you can rehabilitate them and provide affordable housing. This is simply a tie-breaker in the event all other factors are equal.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Riggs; Arnie Dienoff.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

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.