

HB 1178 -- WORK-FROM-ANYWHERE TASK FORCE

SPONSOR: Riggs

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Workforce 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 establishes the "Missouri State Employee Work-From-Anywhere Task Force" to determine best policies for allowing state employees to work from home or remotely. All types of remote-work arrangements and regions of the state will be considered. The membership shall consist of:

- (1) Three members of the House of Representatives, two appointed by the Speaker and one appointed by the Minority Floor Leader;
- (2) Three members of the Senate, two members appointed by the President Pro Tem and one appointed by the Minority Floor Leader;
- (3) The Commissioner of the Office of Administration or his or her designee;
- (4) Four members appointed by the Governor;
- (5) Three members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives as specified in the bill;
- (6) One member representing the Department of Economic Development;
- (7) One member representing the Department of Higher Education and Workforce Development; and
- (8) One member appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives who represents a Missouri-based technology provider.

The time frame of operations for the Task Force is specified in the bill. Only actual and necessary member expenses for attending meetings will be subject to compensation. The Task Force shall issue a report of its activities to the General Assembly before August 28, 2022 and shall resume operations with new members as specified in the bill. Recommendations will continue to be provided every two years to the General Assembly.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that the bill will help ascertain best practices for government agencies and departments for implementing work from home policies. Work from home options have proven very popular and it is necessary to study such policies in order to recruit and maintain a talented state workforce.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Riggs; and Arnie C. 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.