

HCS HBs 1222 & 1342 -- CERTIFICATES OF NEED

SPONSOR: Van Schoiack

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Standing Committee on Downsizing State Government by a vote of 7 to 4. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules- Administrative Oversight by a vote of 8 to 4.

The following is a summary of the House Committee Substitute for HB 1222.

This bill repeals the Missouri Certificate of Need Law (Sections 197.300 to 197.367, RSMo).

This bill is similar to HB 1786 (2020).

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 the bill will downsize government. There are many states that do not have certificates of need. The system does not work and the state should not restrict competition in the marketplace. The bill will open up the marketplace and promote the offering of the best quality care at the lowest price possible.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Van Schoiack; Opportunity Solutions Project; and Wesley Powell.

OPPONENTS: Those who oppose the bill say that the bill gets rid of certificate of need but does not replace it with anything. The cost to the state will go up significantly in many areas, especially rural areas. Eliminating Certificates of Need does not remove the state from the market, it will just harm individuals in need as many places will start to cherry pick services so they do not have to provide service to medicaid and medicare patients. That becomes a bigger issue when that happens in rural areas where medical facilities are already scarce.

Testifying against the bill were BJC, Mosaic, Cox Health; Leading Age Missouri; Missouri Healthcare Association/Missouri Assisted Living Association; Center For Diagnostic Imaging; Missouri Hospital Association; Arnie C. Dienoff; Saint Luke's Health Center; NHS Management, L.L.C.; Hospital Corporation of America; and the Associated Industries of Missouri.

This bill is similar to HB 1786 (2020).
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.