

SS SB 258 -- CLASSIFICATION OF MISSOURI NATIONAL GUARD MEMBERS

SPONSOR: White (Griffith)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Veterans by a vote of 12 to 0. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules- Legislative Oversight by a vote of 11 to 0.

This bill provides that service members of the Missouri National Guard will be considered as state employees for the purposes of operating state-owned vehicles for official state business unless the members are called into active federal military service by order of the President of the United States.

This bill is similar to SCS SB 120 and HB 391 (2021).

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that the COVID-19 pandemic brought to light that members of the National Guard currently have to drive military vehicles when conducting state business. This bill would allow these members to use state-owned vehicles instead of military vehicles. This would increase the readiness of the National Guard and would result in fuel savings considering that military vehicles use substantially more fuel.

Testifying for the bill were Senator White; Chris Mickan, Missouri Army National Guard; and Nick Humphrey, Missouri Army National Guard.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.