

HCS SS SCS SB 157 -- PROFESSIONS REQUIRING LICENSURE

SPONSOR: Black

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Standing Committee on Professional Registration and Licensing by a vote of 9 to 0. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules-Administrative Oversight by a vote of 7 to 0.

This bill modifies provisions relating to professions that require licensure.

Please see the Summary Sheet for a detailed list of the additional language added to the House Committee Substitute.

The following is a summary of the public testimony from the committee hearing. The testimony was based on the Senate Perfected version of the bill.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that this removes unnecessary barriers and creates better access to healthcare across the state. This would help both people in rural Missouri but also in urban areas. This bill will help APRNs to provide services to underserved populations in Missouri.

Testifying in person for the bill were Senator Black; AARP; Mercy; Association Of Missouri Nurse Practitioners; Jessica Petrie, Missouri Association of Rural Health Clinics; Dr. Amy Manning, DNP, APRN, FNPC, Missouri Highlands Health Care; Missouri Hospital Association; Mosaic Life Care; BJC Health System; Missouri Association of Nurse Anesthetists; Missouri Kids First; Centurion; Community Health Center Strategies; Missouri Chamber of Commerce & Industries; National Council of State Boards of Nursing; Missouri Nurses Association; Missouri Family Health Council; and the Missouri Health Care Association.

OPPONENTS: Those who oppose the bill say that this removes the oversight needed from the physician. Having a licensed physician alongside the APRN results in better patient outcomes and lowers costs. The provisions of this bill will not help the lack of healthcare in rural areas because the APRNs tend to live in urban areas and they will not move just because the distance restrictions are lifted.

Testifying in person against the bill were Missouri Academy of Family Physicians; and the Missouri Association of Osteopathic Physicians and Surgeons.

Written testimony has been submitted for this bill. The full written testimony and witnesses testifying online can be found under Testimony on the bill page on the House website.