

HCS HB 2279 -- ROADWAY SIGNS

SPONSOR: Toalson Reisch

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Standing Committee on Transportation Accountability by a vote of 11 to 2. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules- Regulatory Oversight by a vote of 6 to 1.

The following is a summary of the House Committee Substitute for HB 2279.

This bill requires city populations to be included on city limit signs.

This bill waives the current \$200 outdoor advertising fee and biennial inspection fee for certain highway signs under Section 226.550, RSMo, a sign displayed by a landowner who also is the permit holder and owns the business advertised on the sign if the business has a physical location within 750 feet of the sign.

This bill provides that the Department of Transportation, in consultation with the Ozark Highland Distillers Guild, must erect and maintain suitable markings and signs designating the Ozark Highlands Spirits Region.

The bill prohibits the Department of Transportation from erecting any sign designating a highway for any person who has been convicted of killing or attempting to kill a law enforcement officer, or from permitting any signage in the convicted person's memory. Any such sign in place prior to August 28, 2024, must be removed.

This bill requires the Department of Transportation to place a sign on the city limits of the hometown of any Missouri resident who is a recipient of the Medal of Honor. The sign must have the words "Medal of Honor Recipient", the name of the recipient, and the year in which the honor was awarded. The sign will be paid for, erected, and maintained by the Department.

This bill contains provisions from HB 2324; HCS HB 2414; HB 1694; and HCS HB 2100 (2024).

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 cities and towns take pride in having their population displayed.

Testifying in person for the bill was Representative Toalson Reisch.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

OTHERS: Others testifying on the bill say that MoDOT is concerned with signs that may be a distraction to drivers.

Testifying in person on the bill were Tom Honich, MoDOT and Jay Wunderlich, MoDOT.

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.