

HCS HB 169 -- COTTON TRAILERS

SPONSOR: Brown (149)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Special Committee on Rural Issues by a vote of 13 to 0. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules-Administrative by a vote of 8 to 0.

The following is a summary of the House Committee Substitute for HB 169.

Currently, the maximum speed at which cotton trailers may travel is 40 miles per hour. This bill increases the maximum speed to 70 miles per hour and removes the requirement that the trailer is to be used exclusively for transporting cotton. The bill also specifies that cotton trailers are not in violation of the provisions relating to securing of loads if certain conditions are met and no portion of the load becomes dislodged.

This bill is the same as SS SB 1298 (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 farmers have modernized the methods of harvesting and transporting cotton and that the means of transporting cotton from the field to the gin are safer. In addition, for many cotton farmers they must use the interstate to transport the cotton to the gin. This bill would modify the law regarding transporting cotton to reflect these improvements in harvesting and transporting.

Testifying in person for the bill were Representative Donnie Brown and Missouri Farm Bureau.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

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.