HCS HB 443 -- PREEMPTION OF LOCAL ORDINANCES INVOLVING EMPLOYMENT LAW

SPONSOR: Gallick

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Standing Committee on Local Government by a vote of 8 to 6.

The following is a summary of the House Committee Substitute for HB 443.

Currently, the State minimum wage law preempts political subdivisions from establishing or enforcing a minimum or living wage or requiring employment benefits that exceed State laws, rules, or regulations. This bill adds that political subdivision policies, ordinances, and resolutions may not be enacted on those topics, and extends the topics to include:

(1) Regulating the information an employer or potential employer will require or exclude on an employment application from an employee or prospective employee;

(2) Requiring an employer to provide paid or unpaid leave time to an employee; and

(3) Regulating employee hours and scheduling that an employer is required to provide.

A political subdivision may regulate employment discrimination.

This bill is similar to HCS HB 2866 (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 employment law should be uniform Statewide and the Department of Labor should enforce employment law in a uniform way. This will preempt potentially burdensome regulations, helping businesses.

Testifying in person for the bill were Representative Gallick; Buddy Lahl, Missouri Restaurant Association; Associated Industries of Missouri; Missouri Restaurant Association; American Hotel & Lodging Association; US Chamber of Commerce; Missouri Hotel Lodging Association; and Missouri Chamber of Commerce and Industry. OPPONENTS: Those who oppose the bill say that many of these provisions are already law. Additionally, this might have implications for first responders.

Testifying in person against the bill was Jobs With Justice Voter Action.

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.