

HB 714 -- VETERAN PREFERENCES FOR CONTRACTS

SPONSOR: Griffith

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Veterans and Armed Forces by a vote of 19 to 1. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules-Administrative by a vote of 9 to 0.

This bill requires all agencies, departments, institutions and other entities of this State and of each political subdivision to give a three-point bonus preference to honorably discharged veteran owned enterprises that conduct business in Missouri, or that maintain offices or places of business in Missouri, for contracts for the performance of any job or service.

Currently, there is a three-point bonus preference for being a service-disabled veteran business. This bill specifies that a business cannot receive points for being a service-disabled veteran and for being an honorably discharged veteran owned enterprise. The business can only be awarded points for one qualifier or the other.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that this is a good way to honor our veterans and give back to them for their service.

Testifying in person for the bill were Representative Griffith; Mike Rayner and Safer St. Louis, LLC.

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.