

HCS HB 1192 -- ANIMAL HEALTH AND MEAT INSPECTIONS

SPONSOR: Myers (Schlottach)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass by consent" by the Committee on Agriculture by a vote of 24 to 0.

This substitute requires the Director of the Department of Agriculture to promulgate rules consistent with the Federal Meat Inspection Act, the Federal Poultry Products Inspection Act, and all related federal regulations necessary to implement the meat inspection programs of the state.

The substitute repeals obsolete provisions regarding animal health and inspections.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2005, FY 2006, and FY 2007.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that the bill provides for consistency in the state and federal meat inspection programs. The Missouri cattle industry's annual gross sales are over \$1 billion; Missouri is second in beef production nationally; and consumer confidence, enhanced by meat inspection, is essential to the industry's viability and growth.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Sutherland; State Veterinarian; Missouri Cattlemen's Association; Missouri Poultry Association; and Missouri Dairy Association.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

Roland Tackett, Legislative Analyst