

SCS SB 1096 -- INSTALLATION OF MANUFACTURED HOMES

SPONSOR: Caskey (Sutherland)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass" by the Committee on Professional Registration and Licensing by a vote of 10 to 0.

This substitute requires a person who engages in the business of installing manufactured homes to be duly licensed by the Missouri Public Service Commission. The substitute:

(1) Requires the commission to implement a program consistent with federal guidelines for the proper installation of manufactured homes;

(2) Establishes licensing criteria;

(3) Authorizes the commission to waive training and examination requirements for persons holding licenses from other states and allows for reciprocal agreements to be made with other states;

(4) Allows for the issuance of limited licenses for certain applicants;

(5) Authorizes the commission to revoke, suspend, and refuse to issue licenses; file and investigate complaints; issue subpoenas; and file petitions with courts;

(6) Requires the commission to adopt uniform standards for the proper installation of manufactured homes and requires installers to purchase a decal from the commission to be affixed to the home after the installation is completed; and

(7) Creates the Manufactured Housing Fund for the deposit of fees to cover the costs.

The substitute contains penalty provisions.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on General Revenue Fund in FY 2005, FY 2006, and FY 2007. Estimated Income on Other State Funds of \$0 to Unknown in FY 2005, FY 2006, and FY 2007. Assumes fees would equal or exceed costs.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that there has been a mandate from the federal government to create a regulatory agency for manufactured home installers. Currently, there is no regulatory authority for installers; and if Missouri does not enact legislation to regulate them under the Public Service Commission, the federal government will regulate them through the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development. This is a

consumer protection bill because currently home owners have no recourse against independent installers for improper installation.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Sutherland for Senator Caskey; Missouri Public Service Commission; and Missouri Manufactured Housing Association.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

Bob Dominique, Legislative Analyst