

HB 455 -- WATERSHED DISTRICTS

SPONSOR: Quinn

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass by consent" by the Committee on Conservation and Natural Resources by a vote of 12 to 0.

Currently, only landowners living within the watershed district can be elected to serve as trustees of the watershed district. This bill eliminates the requirement that the landowners must actually live within the district.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2006, FY 2007, and FY 2008.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that watershed districts have trouble getting people to volunteer their time to serve on district boards. The bill eliminates this problem by opening up the opportunity to serve on the district board to persons who own land in the watershed district, not just those who reside in the district.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Quinn; Department of Natural Resources; Missouri Watershed Association; and Tom Lambert.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

Kristina Jenkins, Legislative Analyst