

HB 1764 -- COUNTY TRAFFIC FINE SCHEDULES

SPONSOR: Parson

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass" by the Special Committee on General Laws by a vote of 6 to 0.

Currently, the associate circuit judges of each county may meet en banc to adopt the schedule of fines and participation in the Missouri Fine Collection Center for traffic violations. This bill transfers those powers to the appointing authority for each county.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2009, FY 2010, and FY 2011.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that circuit clerks should have the option of participating in the state's Fine Collection Center Program since they handle most of the workload in the disposition of traffic tickets. Currently, only a small group of counties do not participate in the program.

Testifying for the bill was Representative Parson.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

OTHERS: Others testifying on the bill say some judges believe the bill transfers the authority to set fines for traffic violations from the judiciary to the administrative branch of government.

Testifying on the bill was Missouri Associate Circuit Judge Voluntary Fund.