

HB 103 -- MUTUAL-AID AGREEMENTS

SPONSOR: Wildberger

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass by consent" by the Committee on Public Safety by a vote of 12 to 0.

This bill allows the executive officer of any public safety agency to enter into a mutual-aid agreement for reciprocal emergency aid and specifies that the Department of Public Safety will administer the state mutual-aid system.

Any employee of a political subdivision or public safety agency responding to an emergency, disaster, or public safety need that is not declared by the Governor as an emergency is subject to the liability and workers' compensation provisions provided to him or her as an employee of the subdivision or agency. However, during a Governor-declared emergency, any employee responding will not be liable for civil damages or administrative sanctions for the failure to exercise the skill and learning of an ordinarily careful public safety professional in similar circumstances but will be liable for damages due to willful and wanton acts or omissions in rendering services.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2010, FY 2011, and FY 2012.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that there are situations that arise that are not emergency in nature that require police and fire services to work together to keep people safe.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Wildberger; Richard Lehmann, Missouri Association of Fire Chiefs and Fire Service Alliance; State Fire Marshal; and Missouri Police Chiefs' Association.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.