

HCS HB 190 -- JOB TRAINING AND COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICTS

SPONSOR: Flook

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass" by the Committee on Job Creation and Economic Development by a vote of 11 to 0.

This substitute changes the laws regarding job training and community improvement districts.

JOB TRAINING

The Department of Economic Development is allowed to include pre-employment training in its new or expanding industry training. The substitute specifies what services may be provided including development of training plans, the provision of training through qualified training staff, fees for training professionals, and transportation expenses if the training can be more effectively provided outside the community where the jobs will be located.

COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT DISTRICTS

Community improvement districts that are political subdivisions are authorized to sponsor and operate a polytechnic institute for science, technology, and related educational specialties for grades kindergarten through 12. The polytechnic institute will:

- (1) Not use any local school district tax levies;
- (2) Be under the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education's oversight and standards; and
- (3) Be governed by a board consisting of at least seven members appointed by the district.

The substitute specifies the qualifications and terms of board members and requires admission slots into the polytechnic institute to be equitably distributed throughout the polytechnic district based on population.

FISCAL NOTE: Estimated Cost on General Revenue Fund of \$1,000,000 in FY 2010, \$2,500,000 in FY 2011, and \$4,000,000 in FY 2012. No impact on Other State Funds in FY 2010, FY 2011, and FY 2012.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that the bill allows people to receive job training before they start their job and is similar to the Quick Start Program in Georgia. It will allow training to occur while the new facility is being built, modified, expanded,

or retrofitted so that when the facility is ready to open, the employees are able to begin work immediately.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Flook; Roderick Nunn, Missouri Community College Associations; Missouri Chamber of Commerce and Industry; Associated Industries of Missouri; Taxpayers Research Institute of Missouri; Missouri Association for Community Action; and Midwest Alliance for Renewable Energy.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

OTHERS: Others testifying on the bill say that customized training has been very successful and pre-employment training will be an advantage for Missouri so that employees can start training early, which will allow businesses to be more productive more quickly by eliminating the downtime between "doors open" and "producing products."

Testifying on the bill was Steve Wyatt, Small Business Development Centers.