

HCS HB 299 -- MISSOURI ARTS COUNCIL APPROPRIATION

SPONSOR: Sutherland (Wilson, 119)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass by consent" by the Committee on Ways and Means by a vote of 11 to 0.

This substitute removes the \$10 million appropriation limit per fiscal year to the Missouri Arts Council from the estimate of income tax revenues of professional athletes and nonresident entertainers.

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

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that the bill will assist the Missouri Arts Council. The amount generated by the professional athletes and entertainers tax was \$28 million last year with \$10.8 million being appropriated to the council. Before the annual transfer to the council began in 1994, it received \$7 million from the General Revenue Fund. The bill eliminates differing opinions on what the \$10 million cap refers to by removing the cap. The bill is good for economic development since art and cultural events sell more tickets than any sports event.

Testifying for the bill were Representatives Wilson (119) and Storch; Missouri Citizens for the Arts; Beverly Strohmeyer, Missouri Arts Council; and Missouri Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

OPPOSERS: Those who oppose the bill are against its concept.

Testifying against the bill was Kansas City Chiefs Football Club.