

HB 1068 -- Missouri State Park Board

Sponsor: McGhee

This bill establishes in statute the Missouri State Park Board in the Division of State Parks within the Department of Natural Resources, originally created by Executive Order 86-26, which is responsible for managing all aspects of the Historical Marker Program. The board will consist of nine members with no more than one member from any Congressional district and no more than five members of the same political party. The duties of the board are specified including publishing an annual report which is to be sent to the Governor and General Assembly, as well as interested citizens, on the activity and status of all military monuments, memorials, markers, designated veterans' grave markers, and statutorily designated monuments or memorials on the registry.

The department and other state agencies are prohibited from erecting, modifying, or removing any state historic military monument or memorial, marker, designated veterans' grave marker, or statutorily designated monument or memorial located on any site under its control or located on state land listed on the board's registry and from changing any practice of permitted public ceremony on any registered state historic site without first holding a public hearing and receiving the board's approval. The department must publish a public hearing notice in the Missouri Register at least 60 days in advance of any action to seek the board's approval. The notice must also be published once a week for two consecutive weeks in any qualified newspaper in the local area containing the site. Anyone who knowingly removes, defaces, or destroys a registered state historic military monument or memorial, marker, designated veterans' grave marker, or statutorily designated monument or memorial without the approval of the General Assembly or the board will be guilty of a class A misdemeanor.