

SB 812 -- ISRAEL TRADE DESK

SPONSOR: Parson (Jones, 50)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Committee on General Laws by a vote of 15 to 0.

Subject to appropriation, this bill allows the Department of Economic Development to establish an office in Israel for promoting strategic partnerships between Israel-based and Missouri-based companies. The partnerships will strengthen and increase the competitive edge of Missouri companies in the fields of agriculture, bio-technology, and other emerging fields. The department's office in Israel will work in conjunction with relevant business and trade organizations throughout Missouri to promote these purposes as well as bi-lateral trade in the region/

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that this bill will increase the competitive edge of Missouri companies in the fields of agriculture, bio-technology, and other emerging fields.

Testifying for the bill were Senator Parson and Jewish Federation of St. Louis.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.