

HB 696 -- MISSOURI MANUAL PUBLICATION

SPONSOR: Fraker

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Emerging Issues in Education by a vote of 12 to 0. Voted "Do Pass" by the Select Committee on Education by a vote of 9 to 1.

This bill changes the laws regarding the publication of the Missouri Manual, commonly known as the Blue Book. The bill requires the Secretary of State to publish 5,000 copies of the manual in addition to the required electronic version that must be accessible on the secretary's official website. The manuals must be distributed to the members of the General Assembly; the state, judicial, and county officers; and every high school library within the state. Each member of the General Assembly must receive 10 volumes and the surplus volumes must be distributed throughout the state upon proper requests.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that having some printed manuals will be beneficial to those seeking copies in the future.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Fraker and the Missouri Press Association.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.