

HB 1070 -- OFFICE OF MILITARY ADVOCATE

SPONSOR: Davis

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Economic Development and Business Attraction and Retention by a vote of 10 to 0. Voted "Do Pass" by the Select Committee on Commerce by a vote of 10 to 0.

This bill creates the Office of Military Advocate within the Missouri Military Preparedness and Enhancement Commission for the purpose of advocating for the military in Missouri. The office will be administered by the military advocate, who will be appointed by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Senate. The advocate will serve a term of six years and the Department of Economic Development must provide administrative support and staff as needed to support the office.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that over 75,000 jobs are created in Missouri because of military bases located in the state. The funding for this office was already approved in the budget. The bill protects federal jobs in the state but also all ancillary jobs in the area, including the many services that are contracted out. Losing military bases in Missouri will create economic blights which will affect the whole town and local businesses.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Davis and Charles Giger.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.