

HCS HB 1632 -- VACANCIES IN COUNTY OFFICES

SPONSOR: Alferman

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Emerging Issues by a vote of 9 to 2. Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Select Committee on General Laws by a vote of 8 to 2.

This bill sets a 60 day time limit for the Governor to fill a vacancy in the Office of County Commissioner with the advice and consent of the Senate. The vacancies filled by appointment will be held by the appointee until the next general election. The bill does not apply to any county that has adopted a charter for its own government under Article VI, Section 18 of the Missouri Constitution.

In the 13th Judicial Circuit any drug court commissioner must be elected.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that this bill would ensure that vacancies are filled in a timely manner. It would not affect counties that already have a mechanism in place for filling vacancies.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Alferman and Missouri Association Of Counties.

OPPONENTS: Those who oppose the bill say that requiring the consent of the Senate could delay the process by several months.

Testifying against the bill was Boone County.