

HCS SS SCS SB 704 -- PUBLIC FUNDS

SPONSOR: Munzlinger (Rowden)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with Amendments" by the Standing Committee on Government Efficiency by a vote of 10 to 0. Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Select Committee on General Laws by a vote of 9 to 0.

MISSOURI ACCOUNTABILITY PORTAL (Section 37.851, RSMo)

This bill requires every department and division of the state, the General Assembly, the offices of statewide elected officials, and executive branch appointees to make available to the public on the Missouri Accountability Portal specified information relating to all contracts of greater than \$2,500 entered into for the provision of legal services by a private law firm.

These provisions are similar to HCS SCS SB 15 (2015).

HIGHER EDUCATION EMPLOYEE TRAVEL EXPENSES (Section 173.478)

The bill specifies that a public institution of higher education that receives public funding is not allowed to pay for or reimburse out-of-state travel expenses for the spouse of a full-time employee unless the spouse is also employed full-time or a student at the institution and traveling for educational purposes.

This provision is the same as HB 2822 (2016) and similar to HCS SB 711 (2016).

MULTIPURPOSE WATER RESOURCES (Sections 256.437-256.447)

The bill also modifies the term "water resource project" to mean a project containing planning, design, construction, or renovation of public water supply, flood control storage, or treatment or transmission facilities for public water supply.

This bill renames the "Multipurpose Water Resource Program Renewable Water Program Fund" to the "Multipurpose Water Resource Program Fund." The Department of Natural Resources is required to establish rules by which water resource project sponsors can remit contributions to the fund. Any plan submitted to the Director of the Department of Natural Resources for the construction of a water resource project must include a schedule, proposed by the sponsor, to remit contributions back to the fund. The contributions are to be used to administer the fund and to provide financial assistance under the Multipurpose Water Resource Act.

This provision is similar to HCS SS SB 937, SB 1120 and SCS HCS HB 1713 (2016).

MISSOURI QUALITY JOBS ACT (Section 620.1878)

The bill adds the definition of "appropriate measure" to the Missouri Quality Jobs Act.

CLEAN WATER COMMISSION (Section 644.021)

Currently, the Clean Water Commission of the State of Missouri can not have any more than two members that are knowledgeable about agriculture, industry, or mining and four members shall represent the public. This bill changes the membership to require at least two members that are knowledgeable about agriculture and no more than four members that represent the public.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that the bill will increase the transparency of state government by making contracting information available to the general public.

Testifying for the bill was Senator Munzlinger.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.