

HCS HJR 5 -- RIGHT TO HUNT, FISH, AND HARVEST WILDLIFE

SPONSOR: Weter (Pollock)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass" by the Committee on Rural Community Development by a vote of 12 to 0.

Upon voter approval, this proposed constitutional amendment guarantees a citizen's personal right to hunt, fish, and harvest wildlife using traditional devices or methods and prohibits any law or any rule or regulation from unreasonably restricting these activities. Public hunting and fishing must be the preferred means of controlling wildlife, and these provisions cannot be construed to modify any laws regarding trespassing or property rights.

FISCAL NOTE: Estimated Net Effect on General Revenue Fund of an income of \$0 or a cost of More than \$7,000,000 in FY 2012, an income of \$0 to a cost of More than \$7,000,000 in FY 2013, and an income of \$0 in FY 2014. No impact on Other State Funds in FY 2012, FY 2013, and FY 2014.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that the bill is designed to be proactive by ensuring that the right to hunt and fish is not encroached upon as a result of influence by groups outside of Missouri attempting to control conservation policy in Missouri.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Pollock; National Rifle Association of America; Missouri Pork Association; Missouri Farm Bureau; Missouri Federation of Animal Owners; and Missouri Family Network.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.