

## HJR 6 -- RIGHT TO VOTE BY SECRET BALLOT

SPONSOR: Cierpiot

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass" by the Committee on Workforce Development and Workplace Safety by a vote of 6 to 5.

Upon voter approval, this proposed constitutional amendment guarantees the right of an individual to vote by secret ballot where local, state, or federal law requires public elections for public office or public votes on initiatives or referendums or where local, state, or federal law requires designations or authorizations for employee representation.

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 or 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 creates a right to utilize a secret ballot preventing attempts to coerce or intimidate workers.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Cierpiot; National Federation of Independent Business; Associated Builders and Contractors, Heart of American Chapter; Missouri Chamber of Commerce and Industry; and Associated Industries of Missouri.

OPPONENTS: Those who oppose the bill say that most labor rules currently require the use of secret ballots making the bill unnecessary.

Testifying against the bill were United Steelworkers District 11; Missouri AFL-CIO; and Carpenters' District Council of Greater St. Louis and Vicinity.