

HCS SCS SB 68 -- POWERS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

SPONSOR: Mayer (Diehl)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass" by the Committee on General Laws by a vote of 10 to 5.

This substitute changes the laws regarding the powers of the General Assembly. In its main provisions, the substitute:

(1) Establishes eight districts for the election of representatives to the United States Congress beginning with the 113th Congress. The districts are described by census geography, voting districts, and census blocks in accordance with the 2010 census. Districts currently in statute will remain in effect for any election for a vacancy in the 112th Congress; and

(2) Clarifies that a subpoena for witnesses issued at the request of a member of the General Assembly is to be issued under the hand of the President Pro Tem of the Senate or the Speaker of the House of Representatives. The issuance of a subpoena is also authorized for the production of records.

The substitute contains an emergency clause for the provisions regarding a subpoena issued at the request of the General Assembly.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2012, FY 2013, and FY 2014.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that the bill allows citizens to have an efficient and open state government by providing for the honest cooperation of witnesses allowing the legislature to properly evaluate the decisions before them.

Testifying for the bill was Senator Mayer.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.