

HCS HB 1212 -- VEHICLES HAULING LIVESTOCK, AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS,
OR MILK

SPONSOR: Loehner (Smith, 150)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass" by the Committee on
Agriculture Policy by a vote of 14 to 0.

Currently, the total gross weight of a vehicle or combination of vehicles hauling livestock on U. S. Highway 36 from St. Joseph to U. S. Highway 65 and on U. S. Highway 65 from the Iowa state line to U. S. Highway 36 cannot exceed 85,500 pounds. This substitute removes the specified highways and applies this weight limitation to any vehicle hauling livestock or agricultural products except local log trucks on any highway of this state. The weight limits will not apply to vehicles operated on the Dwight D. Eisenhower System of Interstate and Defense Highways. Any vehicle hauling greater than 80,000 pounds must apply annually for a permit from the Department of Transportation and pay a \$25 fee. Upon renewal, the applicant must submit a list of roads traveled and the number of miles traveled on each road during the year.

The substitute also allows a vehicle weighing 85,500 pounds or less to haul milk from a farm to a processing facility on highways other than the interstate highway system.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on General Revenue Fund in FY 2013, FY 2014, and FY 2015. Estimated Net Cost on Other State Funds of Unknown greater than \$100,000 in FY 2013, FY 2014, and FY 2015.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that the bill will help Missouri be more competitive with other states that have increased weight limits for trucks. It will also be cost-efficient for livestock producers by allowing them to increase the number of livestock that can be transported at one time saving them about 10% or \$3 per head of livestock.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Smith (150); Missouri Pork Association; Poultry Federation; Missouri Cattlemen's Association; Barb York, York Trucking; and Phil Clevenger.

OPPOSERS: Those who oppose the bill say that the increased weight limits will create more wear and ruts on state roads because many of these roads, unlike the interstates, do not have a solid base. Missouri also has over 25,000 more miles of state-maintained roads than other states.

Testifying against the bill was Department of Transportation.