

HB 1251 -- SAFE DRINKING WATER ACT FEES

SPONSOR: Ruzicka

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass by consent" by the Committee on Tourism and Natural Resources by a vote of 13 to 0.

This bill extends, from September 1, 2012, to September 1, 2017, the authorization for the Department of Natural Resources to impose fees for the implementation, administration, and enforcement of the federal Safe Drinking Water Act.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on General Revenue Fund in FY 2013, FY 2014, and FY 2015. Estimated Net Income on Other State Funds of \$0 to \$4,600,000 in FY 2013, FY 2014, and FY 2015.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that the bill is critical to ensure safe drinking water to the residents of Missouri by extending the fees that support the state's efforts to test, monitor, and maintain clean, safe drinking water. The fee also supports a state-sponsored monitoring and testing program for public water supplies. Without this fee, public water suppliers would have to contract with private testing services at an increased cost.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Ruzicka; Department of Natural Resources; Missouri Association of Municipal Utilities; Missouri Rural Water Association; Conservation Federation of Missouri; and Dr. Sudan Flader, Missouri Conservation and Environmental Alliance.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.