

HB 776 -- COMMISSION ON CAPITOL SECURITY INFRASTRUCTURE

SPONSOR: Higdon

COMMITTEE ACTIONS: Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness by a vote of 8 to 2. Voted "Do Pass" by the Select Committee on State and Local Governments by a vote of 9 to 1.

This bill establishes the Commission on Capitol Security Infrastructure. The commission will consist of the Governor, the President Pro Tem of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, or their designated representatives.

The commission must:

- (1) Oversee the general supervision and charge of the Missouri State Capitol Building, the State Capitol parking garages, and any other state-owned buildings adjacent to or in the immediate vicinity of the State Capitol Building that house any offices of the General Assembly or its staff; and
- (2) Employ and supervise Missouri Capitol police officers.

Currently, the Director of the Department of Public Safety is required to employ and supervise Missouri Capitol Police officers. The bill requires the commission to employ and supervise Missouri Capitol Police officers.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that the bill creates better communication between the legislature and the Capitol police. It provides the legislature with direct communication to the Chief of the Missouri Capitol Police.

Testifying for the bill was Representative Higdon.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.