

HB 918 -- MISSOURI INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS ADVERTISING FUND

SPONSOR: Johnson

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Trade and Tourism by a vote of 10 to 0. Voted "Do Pass" by the Select Committee on Commerce by a vote of 7 to 0.

This bill creates the Missouri International Business Advertising Fund consisting of appropriated moneys, contributions, grants, and bequests to be used solely to attract international businesses to Missouri. The fund must be used for advertising the benefits of relocating an international business to Missouri. The fund may also be used to promote its existence and purpose and to advertise in international business magazines or on international social media sites or any search engine that receives international traffic. The fund must be administered and managed by the Missouri Small Business Technology and Development Center and its coordinator.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that many companies now are relocating their manufacturing facilities back to the United States and Missouri should promote itself to attract some of these businesses.

Testifying for the bill was Representative Johnson.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.