

HB 898 -- SPECIALTY LICENSE PLATE

SPONSOR: Walsh

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Crime Prevention and Public Safety by a vote of 10 to 0. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules- Legislative Oversight by a vote of 7 to 2.

This bill creates a "Back the Blue" license plate which will be available for a \$10 contribution to the Missouri Law Enforcement Memorial Foundation and a \$15 fee in addition to normal registration costs. The Missouri Department of Revenue may specify the design in accordance with statutory criteria and may enact rules for the program.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that \$10 from the fee will go to support the law enforcement memorial. Many people are looking for some way to support law enforcement, and this is a good way to do it. It should not take a full-time employee to accomplish the goals of this legislation. It has been 25 years since the memorial was created and it needs to be fixed.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Walsh; Dale H Roberts, Columbia Police Officer Association; Missouri Police Chiefs Association; Brad Thielmier, Troopers Association; Lynn Woolford; and the Missouri Fraternal Order of Police.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.