

HCS HB 922 -- STATUTE OF LIMITATION

SPONSOR: Houx

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Special Committee on Litigation Reform by a vote of 6 to 3. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules- Legislative Oversight by a vote of 7 to 3.

The following is a summary of the House Committee Substitute for HB 922.

Currently, actions for personal injury must be brought within five years from the date the injury occurred. This bill reduces the time frame to two years from when the injury occurred.

This bill is similar to HB 855 and SB 3 (2021).

The following is a summary of the public testimony from the committee hearing. The testimony was based on the introduced version of the bill.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that most states have implemented the bill already and Missouri should follow suit as the current statute of limitations was created over 70 years ago. The bill will allow for better preservation of evidence for personal injury suits.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Houx; United States Chamber of Commerce; Associated Industries of Missouri; National Federation of Independent Business (NFIB); Bayer U.S. LLC; Enterprise Leasing St. Louis, LLC; Missouri Insurance Coalition; Missouri Trucking Association; Missouri Chamber of Commerce; Missouri Civil Justice Reform Coalition; American Property Casualty Insurance Association; and the Missouri Organization of Defense Lawyers.

OPPOSERS: Those who oppose the bill say that there will be a rush of filings if the bill is enacted causing a surge in litigation and litigation costs. The bill will limit the ability of the injured party from collecting the damages they deserve after two years.

Testifying against the bill were Arnie Dienoff; and the Missouri Association of Trial Attorneys.

Written testimony has been submitted for this bill. The full written testimony can be found under Testimony on the bill page on the House website.