

HB 1956 -- PESTICIDE REGISTRATION FEES

SPONSOR: Bivins

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass by consent" by the Special Committee on Agri-Business by a vote of 10 to 0.

This bill creates the Pesticide Fee Fund for the deposit of moneys collected from annual pesticide registration fees. Moneys in the fund will be used solely for the administration of programs within the Bureau of Pesticide Control in the Department of Agriculture.

Beginning January 1, 2009, the annual pesticide registration fee will increase from \$15 to \$50 for each registered product.

FISCAL NOTE: Estimated Income on General Revenue Fund of \$269,901 in FY 2009, FY 2010, and FY 2011. Estimated Income on Other State Funds of \$120,099 in FY 2009, FY 2010, and FY 2011.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that the increased fees will be adequate to pay the cost of training more than 23,000 Missouri private pesticide applicators. Registration fees have not been modified since 1982, are less than 10% of any neighboring state pesticide fee, and are the lowest in the United States.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Bivins; Division of Plant Industries, Department of Agriculture; Department of Agriculture; and Missouri AgriBusiness Association.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.