



GOVERNOR OF MISSOURI

JEFFERSON CITY

65102

JEREMIAH W. (JAY) NIXON
GOVERNOR

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July 12, 2012

TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

Herewith I return to you Senate Committee Substitute for Senate Bill No. 715 entitled:

AN ACT

To repeal sections 40.435 and 41.050, RSMo, and to enact in lieu thereof one new section relating to the state militia.

I disapprove of Senate Committee Substitute for Senate Bill No. 715. My reasons for disapproval are as follows:

Senate Committee Substitute for Senate Bill No. 715 would repeal a complaint procedure contained in section 40.435, RSMo. This procedure has been available for nearly thirty years and, while there are other grievance mechanisms available to the members of the Missouri National Guard, a particular situation or issue may justify the use of this reporting process. Therefore, absent a showing that this procedure lacks utility or is otherwise deleterious to the welfare of the Missouri National Guard, this long-standing process should remain an option available to our service men and women.

Senate Committee Substitute for Senate Bill No. 715 also provides the Adjutant General with the discretion to waive the maximum age limitation for members of the Missouri Reserve Military Force. This will provide the Adjutant General with the flexibility necessary to recruit a reserve force that possesses the skills and abilities necessary to assist Missourians in a time of need. However, that provision is duplicative of a provision contained in House Bill No. 1105, which I approved.

In accordance with the above stated reasons for disapproval, I am returning Senate Committee Substitute for Senate Bill No. 715 without my approval.

Respectfully submitted,

A blue ink signature of Jeremiah W. (Jay) Nixon, written in a cursive style.

Jeremiah W. (Jay) Nixon
Governor