

SENATE BILL REPORT

SJR 8213

AS OF FEBRUARY 9, 1993

**Brief Description:** Amending the Constitution to permit municipalities and state agencies to employ chaplains.

**SPONSORS:** Senators Franklin, Winsley, Prentice, Hochstatter, McAuliffe, Barr, Erwin, Hargrove and Drew

**SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES**

**Staff:** Martin Lovinger (786-7443)

**Hearing Dates:** February 15, 1993

**BACKGROUND:**

The State Constitution prohibits the use of public money or property to be used for any religious worship, exercise or instruction, or the support of any religious establishment. However, these prohibitions do not forbid the Legislature from providing for the state to employ a chaplain for state custodial, correctional, and mental institutions.

**SUMMARY:**

The Legislature is authorized to permit counties and public hospital districts to employ chaplains at their hospitals, health facilities, and hospices.

**Appropriation:** none

**Revenue:** none

**Fiscal Note:** requested February 4, 1993

**Effective Date:** The amendment becomes effective immediately upon certification of the election results of the November 1993 general election, if the voters approve the amendment.