

HCS HB 1179 -- CRIMINAL CASE SURCHARGES

SPONSOR: Byrd (Corcoran)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass by consent" by the Committee on Judiciary by a vote of 17 to 0.

Under current law, a \$2 surcharge is collected in certain criminal cases to be used to develop biometric verification systems for identifying and tracking inmates within local jail systems. This substitute allows the funds to also be used for other expenses related to housing prisoners after the installation of the biometric verification system.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2005, FY 2006, and FY 2007.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that once the biometric verification system is installed, the funds from this surcharge just accumulate because there are no other authorized uses. The bill will allow the funds to be used to offset housing and other costs for prisoners.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Corcoran; Missouri Police Chiefs' Association; and Missouri Association of Counties.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

OTHERS: Others testifying on the bill say that federal grants are now available for installing biometric verification systems, so less money is needed for that purpose from this surcharge.

Others testifying on the bill was Third Millennium Biometrics, LLC.

Julie Jinkens McNitt, Legislative Analyst