

HB 1458 -- Gang Resistance Education and Training Programs

Sponsor: Moore

This bill imposes a \$20 surcharge on all felony court proceedings involving drugs (Chapter 195, RSMo); offenses against the person (Chapter 565); sexual offenses (Chapter 566); robbery, burglary, and arson (Chapter 569); stealing (Chapter 570); and weapons (Chapter 571), except when charges are dismissed or when costs are to be paid by the state or political subdivision. Fifty percent of the surcharge will be deposited in the Gang Resistance Education and Training (GREAT) Fund, to be administered by the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education. The department, in conjunction with participating local law enforcement, will develop a program for gang resistance training in school districts which the department determines need these programs. The program will, among other things, help children understand how gang violence affects communities and how to resolve conflicts without violence. The remaining 50% of the funds collected will be used to provide matching grants to school districts to fund the after-school reading retreat program described in Section 167.680. The provisions of the bill terminate on December 31, 2009.