

HCS HB 430 -- ANHYDROUS AMMONIA

SPONSOR: Lipke (Shoemyer)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass" by the Committee on Crime Prevention and Public Safety by a vote of 12 to 0.

This substitute creates the Anhydrous Ammonia Additive Fund to reimburse distributors of anhydrous ammonia for the actual cost of adding red dye to the ammonia. Distributors add a red dye to anhydrous ammonia to render it unusable and prevent it from being stolen for methamphetamine production. The fund may accept money from any private or governmental source and will be administered by the Department of Agriculture.

The provisions of the substitute will expire six years from the effective date.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2006, FY 2007, and FY 2008.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that adding "Glow Tell" to anhydrous ammonia can deter meth producers from stealing the ammonia from farmers' tanks in the field. This will help both farmers and the public by decreasing meth production. The war on meth must be fought on several fronts, and farmers are willing to do what they can to help. In the event federal or private grant money becomes available, the bill establishes an account that reimburses farmers for the added expense of using Glow Tell. The Department of Agriculture then receives and distributes these funds without delay.

Testifying for the bill were Representatives Shoemyer and Bringer; State Highway Patrol; and Missouri Farmers Union.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

Richard Smreker, Senior Legislative Analyst