

HCS HB 1168 -- WELL-BEING COMMITTEE FOR IMPAIRED PHARMACISTS

SPONSOR: Behnen (Tilley)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass by consent" by the Committee on Professional Registration and Licensing by a vote of 13 to 0.

This substitute allows the Missouri State Board of Pharmacy to establish the Well-being Committee to aid pharmacists who suffer from illness, substance abuse, mental illness, or physical impairments. The board will enter into contractual agreements with nonprofit corporations for the purpose of creating, supporting, and maintaining the committee. All communications involving the licensee and the committee are confidential and not considered public records.

The committee may disclose information about an impaired licensee when it is necessary to further the intervention, treatment, or rehabilitation of the licensee; the release is authorized by the licensee; the committee must make a report to the board; or the information is subject to a court order.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2007, FY 2008, and FY 2009.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that the bill allows licensees to be deferred for treatment without retribution. The bill will save the board money and encourage personal responsibility for those with substance abuse problems.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Tilley; Missouri Pharmacy Association; Missouri Dental Association; Missouri State Medical Association; and Missouri Recovery Network.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

Bob Dominique, Legislative Analyst