HB 1330 -- Court Costs and Law Enforcement Investigations

Sponsor: Baker (25)

This bill changes the laws regarding the procedures required in law enforcement investigations. The bill:

(1) Assesses a \$5 surcharge in each criminal court proceeding with \$4 being deposited into the Missouri Laboratory Oversight Committee Revolving Fund, created in the bill to fund DNA testing of currently incarcerated individuals, provide accreditation testing and auditing of crime laboratory facilities in Missouri, and purchase new equipment and provide training to crime lab personnel, and \$1 into the Justice Improvement Fund, created in the bill to be used for administrative costs;

(2) Requires that any interview, conducted at a police facility, of a witness or suspect during an investigation for the crimes of first-degree or second-degree murder or voluntary or involuntary manslaughter will be electronically recorded;

(3) Establishes a preference for video electronic recording of witness and suspect statements;

(4) Requires the law enforcement officer in charge of a criminal investigation to certify a list of all witnesses' names, addresses, and phone numbers within 10 days of presentment to the prosecutor of the police investigation;

(5) Requires the Director of the Department of Public Safety to provide a standardized witness evidence form for use by law enforcement in cases where an individual was observed but the identify is unknown by the witness at the time of the crime and to promulgate an eyewitness evidence protocol;

(6) Establishes the seven-member Missouri Laboratory Oversight Committee to provide independent review of state crime laboratory operations;

(7) Requires every crime lab report to be signed by the individual that conducted the test described with an attached listing of accreditation by any outside agencies;

(8) Requires every crime lab to keep documentation of testing methodologies, internal auditing procedure records, and records relating to instrument testing and maintenance; and

(9) Requires the director to create a standard salary compensation level for law enforcement officers.