

HCS HB 180, 396 & 615 -- FIREARMS

SPONSOR: Tilley (Day)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass" by the Special Committee on General Laws by a vote of 6 to 1.

This substitute allows police or sheriffs' departments to sell or trade certain confiscated firearms to licensed firearms dealers and exempts federal flight deck officers from the crime of unlawful use of weapons under certain circumstances.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2008, FY 2009, and FY 2010.

PROPOSERS: Supporters of House Bill 180 say that any weapons currently confiscated or seized during an investigation must be destroyed. The destruction of weapons takes away a resource that can be used to fund law enforcement and crime prevention. Any revenue gained by selling or trading the seized weapons will be used to fund police and sheriff departments.

Supporters of House Bill 396 say that it allows commercial pilots or federal air marshals who are licensed federal flight deck officers to carry their firearms from the plane and airport to their hotels during a stay over in Missouri. Without the exemption, flight deck officers cannot legally carry or transport the guns in Missouri without a concealed carry permit. Currently, federal flight deck officers have greater training requirements than individuals who are licensed to carry concealed weapons in Missouri.

Supporters of House Bill 615 say that it allows commercial pilots or federal air marshals who are licensed federal flight deck officers to carry their firearms from the plane and airport to their hotels during a stay over in Missouri. Without the exemption, flight deck officers cannot legally carry or transport the guns in Missouri without a concealed carry permit. Currently, federal flight deck officers have greater training requirements than individuals who are licensed to carry concealed weapons in Missouri.

Testifying for HB 180 were Representative Day; and Missouri Sheriffs Association. Testifying for HB 396 were Representative Wells; and National Rifle Association. Testifying for HB 615 were Representative Jones (89); and National Rifle Association.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.