

HCS HB 669 -- FIREARMS

SPONSOR: Tilley (Pearce)

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

This substitute prohibits the state or any political subdivision from restricting the lawful possession, transfer, sale, transportation, storage, display, or use of firearms or ammunition during a declared state of emergency.

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

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that the bill will protect the Second Amendment civil liberties of Missouri citizens during times of an emergency. The bill is designed to avoid Hurricane Katrina situations where the government seized legally possessed firearms or prevented the lawful ownership or transfer of firearms or ammunition. In times of an emergency, one of the most important rights of citizens is the right to self protection.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Pearce; Stuart Strickler; and National Rifle Association.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.