

HCS HB 889 -- PUBLIC ASSISTANCE FOR ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS

SPONSOR: Nolte (Emery)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass" by the Special Committee on Immigration by a vote of 7 to 1.

This substitute prohibits persons who are not citizens or permanent residents of the United States or who do not possess lawful immigration status from receiving state or local public assistance unless it is mandated under federal law. Documentary evidence accepted by the Department of Revenue for obtaining a driver's license will suffice as proof of citizenship, permanent residency, or lawful immigration status. Persons can temporarily receive public assistance for up to 90 days while obtaining the necessary documentation.

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

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that many of the bill's provisions are already federal law, and the bill simply creates a disincentive for illegal aliens to remain in the country.

Testifying for the bill was Representative Emery.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.