

HCS HB 1468 -- CHILD ENDANGERMENT

SPONSOR: Bruns (Pratt)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass" by the Committee on Crime Prevention and Public Safety by a vote of 8 to 0.

This substitute establishes Hope's Law which changes the laws regarding the crime of endangering the welfare of a child in the first degree. Any person who violates the provisions of Chapter 195, RSMo, regarding the possession or control of a controlled substance, except 35 grams or less of marijuana, in the presence or in a residence where a person younger than 17 years of age resides will be guilty of a class B felony.

FISCAL NOTE: Estimated Cost on General Revenue Fund of Less than \$100,000 in FY 2009, FY 2010, and FY 2011. No impact on Other State Funds in FY 2009, FY 2010, and FY 2011.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that the bill increases the penalty for individuals who use or produce methamphetamine in the presence of a minor child. This is becoming a serious problem because anyone in the same vicinity of a person using meth will ingest about one-third of what the person using the drug ingests.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Pratt; Dennine Turner; and Nancy Burkhart.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.