HCS HB 1649 -- DRIVER'S LICENSES OF REGISTERED SEXUAL OFFENDERS

SPONSOR: Franz

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass" by the Special Committee on Family Services by a vote of 10 to 0.

This substitute specifies that the driver's or nondriver's license of a registered sexual offender will expire after one year unless the license is issued for a shorter period of time due to other requirements of law. A license will be revoked if the offender fails to register as required by law.

A sexual offender's driver's or nondriver's license will prominently display a unique code or identifier. The fee for the one-year license will be \$7.50.

The State Highway Patrol must provide a list which includes the full name, address, and Social Security number of registered sexual offenders to the Department of Revenue.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on General Revenue Fund in FY 2009, FY 2010, and FY 2011. Estimated Income on Other State Funds of will not exceed \$75,000 in FY 2009, FY 2010, and FY 2011.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that the bill is not an invasion of privacy for these individuals but rather a tool for law enforcement. Only law enforcement will know what the unique code or identifier means, but the identifier will help law enforcement determine that a person is a sexual offender. The bill will enhance officer safety by the instant recognition of an offender and help to reduce the resources needed to verify the information on sexual offenders.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Franz; Missouri Sheriffs Association; and Missouri Family Network.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.