HCS HB 2041 -- DISCLOSURE OF CONFIDENTIAL UNEMPLOYMENT INFORMATION

SPONSOR: Hunter (Fisher)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass - federal mandate" by the Special Committee on Workforce Development and Workplace Safety by a vote of 12 to 0.

This substitute specifies that the Division of Employment Security within the Department of Labor and Industrial Relations may disclose confidential information obtained from any employing unit or individual regarding employment records required by the division in the administration of the Missouri Employment Security Law to a state or federal official or agency as required by law. It will be at the division's discretion for any other party to receive disclosures as authorized by state or federal law.

Any person who intentionally discloses or otherwise fails to protect confidential information in violation of these provisions will be guilty of a class D felony.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2009, FY 2010, and FY 2011.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that the bill provides additional protection to employers and employees by creating a penalty for the disclosure of confidential information and satisfies a federal mandate that the information be confidential except as required by law.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Fisher; and Department of Labor and Industrial Relations.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.