

HCS HB 1200 -- PUBLIC RECORDS

SPONSOR: Burlison

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Committee on General Laws by a vote of 12 to 1.

This bill requires a public governmental body that provides information as required under the Open Meetings and Records Law, commonly known as the Sunshine Law, or that sells or distributes personal identifying information including, but not limited to, names, telephone numbers, electronic mail addresses, physical addresses, zip codes, redacted social security numbers, or drivers' license numbers, to a third-party business entity, not-for-profit corporation, or governmental agency to keep a record of the release or sale of information and to provide the record to the Office of Attorney General upon request.

The Attorney General must create a free public information service which must provide these records to any Missouri resident, free of charge. The information provided to an individual Missouri resident under these provisions must consist only of a list of public governmental bodies and associated business entities, not-for-profit corporations, and governmental agencies involved in each separate release or sale of such resident's personal identifying information and an indication of the type of personal identifying information involved in each separate release or sale. The Attorney General must post notice of the availability of this information on his or her website. This provision will be subject to an appropriation for this purpose.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that the bill increases transparency in the sharing of information, particularly with regard to student data.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Burlison and Missouri Against Common Core Curriculum.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

OTHERS: Others testifying are concerned the bill is overly broad and may include many local information "releases" such as tax bills or utility costs to a realtor or voter lists by a county clerk.

Testifying for informational purposes were the Missouri Municipal League and the Missouri Association of Counties.