HB 727 -- REPORTING REQUIREMENTS BY SCHOOL EMPLOYEES

SPONSOR: Matthiesen

This bill repeals the requirement that when a person is believed to
have committed an act which if committed by an adult would be
assault in the first, second, or third degree, sexual assault, or
deviate sexual assault against a pupil or school employee, while on
school property, including a school bus in service on behalf of the
district, or while involved in school activities. In instances
when the offense believed to have been committed is assault in the
third degree and there is a written agreement between the
superintendent and the appropriate law enforcement agency as to
procedure for reporting the offense, the incident is required to be
reported in accordance with that agreement.

Currently, when a pupil is discovered to have on his or her person,
among the pupil's possessions, or placed elsewhere on the school
premises any controlled substance or any weapon, the principal is
required to report the discovery to the appropriate law enforcement
agency immediately. This bill changes the requirement to being
reported as soon as reasonably practical. Furthermore, the bill
specifies that any time a teacher becomes aware of such possession,
he or she shall report such incident to the principal as soon as
reasonably practical.

The bill also adds the requirement that teachers report to the
principal, and the principal report to the appropriate law
enforcement agency and the superintendent, as soon as reasonably
practical any instance when a pupil is believed to have committed
any offense specified in Subsection 2 of Section 160.261, RSMo;
while on school property, on any school bus in service on behalf of
the school district, or while involved in school activities.

The bill provides civil immunity for school employees,
superintendents, or their designees who provide information to law
enforcement or juvenile authorities regarding an instance in which
a pupil is believed to have committed an act which, if committed by
an adult, would be assault in the third degree or assault in the
fourth degree.