

HB 889 -- LAW ENFORCEMENT RECORDS

SPONSOR: Rehder

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Special Committee on Government Oversight by a vote of 10 to 1. Voted "Do Pass" by the Committee on Rules - Administrative Oversight by a vote of 13 to 0.

This bill prohibits law enforcement from releasing investigative reports and incident reports involving suicide or attempted suicide or medical records contained in such reports involving instances of rape or sexual assault or other sex offenses. These reports are considered closed records for purposes of Chapter 610, RSMo, but may be released for purposes including law enforcement as authorized by other laws or rules. Reports involving suicide or attempted suicide may be released to protect individuals or the public safety. Exceptions allowing the release of reports to victims upon their request or to family members and guardians are specified in the bill.

This bill is similar to HB 2473 (2016).

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that the bill was well vetted last year and that it is very helpful in ensuring victim privacy and preventing additional harm to individuals who are crime victims or who are suffering from depression or other psychological disorders.

Testifying for the bill was Representative Rehder.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.