

HCS SB 204 -- BIOLOGICAL SAMPLE COLLECTION

SPONSOR: Sifton (Higdon)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Standing Committee on Judiciary by a vote of 10 to 0.

Currently, every individual who is 17 or older and is arrested for burglary, sex-related felonies, or certain felonies committed against a person must provide a biological sample for DNA profiling analysis. This bill modifies that requirement to apply to every individual 17 or older who is indicted or charged by information in circuit court to provide the sample upon order of the court.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that this type of biological data collection has helped solve more crimes and it helps to exclude individuals who are suspected of committing crimes. Supporters also say this is the same as fingerprinting, and the state will not retain the data if the person is not convicted.

Testifying for the bill were Senator Sifton; Russell Oliver, Stoddard County (Missouri Association Prosecuting Attorneys); Missouri State Fraternal Order Of Police; and the Missouri Police Chiefs Association.

OPPONENTS: Those who oppose the bill say that this pushes the line farther and farther toward law and order and it undermines the presumption of innocent until proven guilty.

Testifying against the bill were Dan Viets and the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU), Missouri.