

HB 1262 -- RELEASE OF PERSONAL PROPERTY

SPONSOR: Schroer

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on General Laws by a vote of 11 to 0.

This bill requires towing companies lawfully in possession of abandoned vehicles to release all personal property from such vehicles to the true owner upon request. Documentation of such release and an itemized list of the property should be made, and the towing company will remain liable for safe return of such property to the owner.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that this bill protects people's personal property rights by ensuring that individuals who leave personal items in an abandoned vehicle can claim those items without having to pay any fees to the person who removed the abandoned vehicle. Currently, the only item a towing company is required to release to the owner of the vehicle regardless of whether the towing company has been paid is medication.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Schroer and Abate For Missouri.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.