

HCS HB 1439 -- ENDANGERING THE WELFARE OF A CHILD

SPONSOR: Evans

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Standing Committee on Crime Prevention and Public Safety by a vote of 9 to 0.

This bill specifies that being at least 18 years of age and knowingly exposing obscene material or an obscene performance to a minor is an offense of endangering the welfare of a child in the first degree.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that this issue is part of what's seen as grooming when there is abusive behavior toward children, so this needs to be nipped in the bud. It is important to teach children about the dangers of child on child pornography. Over 80% of self-produced images are stolen and end up circulated and seen by masses.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Evans; The Stop Trafficking Project; National Decency Coalition; and Concerned Women For America of Missouri.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.