

HCS HB 37 -- CRIMINAL CASE SURCHARGE

SPONSOR: Walsh

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Standing Committee on Crime Prevention and Public Safety by a vote of 8 to 0. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules- Legislative Oversight by a vote of 9 to 0.

This bill changes the chapter from Chapter 195 to Chapter 579, RSMo, relating to controlled substances offenses, for the class of circuit court proceeding costs for which a surcharge of \$60 shall be assessed.

Additionally, the bill extends the expiration date of the provisions of the bill to August 28, 2029.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that this is the same as SB 20 and it just moves the chapter reference from Chapter 195 to Chapter 579. Additionally, this program has been effective because the General Revenue budget is under one million dollars, whereas the fund has over one million dollars in it. Without the fund, there would not be enough money to operate the crime lab, which provides services to over 600 law enforcement agencies free of charge.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Walsh; Brian Hoey, Missouri State Highway Patrol; and Ed Clark, St. Louis Police Officers Association.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.