

HB 575 -- CAMPUS PROTECTION OFFICERS

SPONSOR: Dohrman

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Higher Education by a vote of 6 to 1 with 1 present. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules- Legislative Oversight by a vote of 7 to 2.

This bill authorizes colleges and universities to designate faculty or staff members as campus protection officers. Any faculty or staff member seeking designation as a campus protection officer must submit a certificate of completion from a campus protection officer training program approved by the Department of Public Safety. A campus protection officer will be authorized to carry concealed firearms on campus after submitting proof that he or she has a valid concealed carry endorsement or permit.

This bill is similar to HCS HB 1942 (2018).

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that this bill provides an option for the universities that they may use additional options. Supporters also point out that many community colleges support this bill.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Dohrman; Council on Public Higher Education; and Missouri Community College Association.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.