HCS HB 703 -- TAX REFUND DONATION

SPONSOR: Richey

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.

For all tax years beginning on or after January 1, 2019, and ending before January 1, 2024, this bill creates the "Kansas City Regional Law Enforcement Memorial Foundation Fund" to allow a taxpayer to donate a portion of his or her tax refund to the fund. The Director of Revenue will distribute money deposited into the fund to the Kansas City Regional Law Enforcement Memorial Foundation.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that this bill provides taxpayers an option to voluntarily support the effort taking place in Kansas City for a Law Enforcement memorial garden. It would allow individuals to deduct from their refund or add to their amount owed. It is extremely important for us to show our appreciation for the work our law enforcement officers do. The memorial garden is meant to honor lives lost in the line of duty and it's open to federal, state, and municipal law enforcement.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Richey; Heather Hall; Mark Bruns, and the Kansas City Fraternal Order of Police & Missouri Fraternal Order of Police.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.