HCS HB 729 -- OFFENDER REGISTRIES

SPONSOR: Roberts (161)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Standing Committee on Judiciary by a vote of 13 to 0. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules- Administrative Oversight by a vote of 9 to 0.

This bill specifies that the State Highway Patrol must maintain on their website a registry for violent offenders who are on probation or parole for the offense of first or second degree murder in Missouri or for an equivalent offense in any other state. The Division of Probation and Parole of the Department of Corrections must notify the State Highway Patrol if a violent offender is placed on probation or parole, is removed from probation or parole, or relocates to the state under the Interstate Compact for adult offender supervision so the State Highway Patrol may update the Offender Registry accordingly. When the Highway Patrol receives notification that an offender has been removed from probation or parole, the State Highway Patrol must remove the offender from the registry.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that this seeks to create a new registry for violent offenders. It does not affect the sexual offender registry. There needs to be a way for people to know if a violent offender who is on probation or parole has been moved into the area. One supporter shared the story of how her sister was murdered by a person who was on parole after serving 25 years for committing a previous murder and her sister had no idea even though she was renting a home from this person. A registry would have helped in that situation.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Roberts and Mona Caylor.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.