

HCS HB 826 -- CHILD-CARE FACILITIES

SPONSOR: Hicks

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Standing Committee on Crime Prevention and Public Safety by a vote of 5 to 1.

This bill allows the Department of Health and Senior Services to deny an application for a child-care facility license if the facility will be located within 1,000 feet of a place where a registered sexual offender resides or receives treatment. It also provides that a patient of a hospital or long-term care facility is not considered a resident for purposes of locating child care facilities near the residence of a registered sexual offender.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that child care facilities should not be opening up where sex offenders are getting treatment. There are facilities that treat individuals with behavioral problems, and there are daycares that want to open up 12 feet from the treatment facilities. The alternative for those with the behavioral problems would be to go to a hospital instead, which would be a high cost alternative for them. They say the Department of Heath cannot deny applications so its hands are tied.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Hicks; Kids Win Missouri; Missouri Health Care Association; and Reliant Care Management.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.