

HB 953 -- JUVENILE COURT JURISDICTION

SPONSOR: Knight

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Children and Families by a vote of 12 to 0. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules- Administrative Oversight by a vote of 8 to 0.

This bill creates the "Interim Joint Committee on Juvenile Court Jurisdiction and Implementation," with the purpose of implementing the raising of the age of juvenile court jurisdiction to 17, which goes into effect in 2021. The committee shall be made up of two members of the Senate appointed by the President Pro Tem and the Minority Leader of the Senate, two members of the House of Representatives appointed by the Speaker and the Minority Floor Leader and the bill specifies other members of the committee and what the committee's duties will be, including how often it will meet. The committee will be required to compile a full report of its activities for submission to the General Assembly by January 15, 2020.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that in order to implement the age change by 2021, this committee is needed to collect data, determine how to distribute funds, plan for how to deal with compulsory school attendance and countless other issues no one has yet thought about.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Knight; Tammy Walden; and Missouri Juvenile Justice Association.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.