

HCS HB 1488 -- VICTIM IMPACT PROGRAMS

SPONSOR: Bromley

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Standing Committee on Crime Prevention and Public Safety by a vote of 6 to 0. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee of Rules- Legislative Oversight by a vote of 10 to 0.

The following is a summary of the House Committee Substitute for HB 1488.

This bill requires a person who has pled guilty to or been found guilty of driving while intoxicated to complete a victim impact program approved by the court, except for good cause shown, and makes him or her responsible for any charges imposed by the program.

The following is a summary of the public testimony from the committee hearing. The testimony was based on the introduced version of the bill.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that requiring completion of a victim impact program is not a punishment; rather, it is intended to be a proactive measure to hopefully prevent potential future tragedies and it would give those completing the program an opportunity to reflect and correct their behavior.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Bromley; St. Louis County Police Association; Missouri Prosecuting Attorneys Association; and Dennis Willems.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.