

HB 177 -- PUBLIC ACCESS TO RECORDS (Ellebracht)

COMMITTEE OF ORIGIN: Special Committee on Homeland Security

SAFETY REPORTING (Section 37.717, RSMo)

This bill creates a safety reporting system for Department of Social Services employees to be able to report information regarding the safety of those served by the office and the safety of the employees. The bill specifies how the identity of the person making the report will be protected.

MUNICIPAL COURTS (Section 479.162)

This bill requires municipal courts to provide a police report, probably cause statement or video to a dependent upon request. The dependent must be in a proceeding with a charge that carries the possibility of fifteen days or more in jail. The municipal court can not charge for the requested documents or video.

SUNSHINE LAW (Section 610.021)

This bill modifies the law to allow records or meetings of governmental bodies that include descriptions of discussion about security procedures, including evacuation and lock down procedures, to remain confidential and closed to the public.

This bill allows a public governmental body to close records of utility usage and bill records for customers of public utilities unless the customer requests them or authorizes their release. It also allows the government body to close records involving email address and telephone numbers submitted for the sole purpose of receiving electronic or other communications.

This bill is the same as HB 1366 (2020).