HCS HB 362 -- SUNSHINE LAW

SPONSOR: DeGroot

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Standing Committee on Emerging Issues by a vote of 12 to 0. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules- Administrative Oversight by a vote of 9 to 0.

The following is a summary of the House Committee Substitute for HB 362.

This bill allows a public governmental body to close records if the records are related to email addresses and telephone numbers submitted to a public governmental body by individuals or entities for the sole purpose of receiving electronic or other communications.

This bill is similar to HB 2603 (2020).

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 the bill prevents individuals from obtaining public contact information to use for their own purposes, such as political campaigning. The bill protects citizens who engage with their local government.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Degroot; Municipal League of Metro St. Louis; Missouri Municipal League; and Missouri Municipal League.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.