

HB 632 -- END-OF-LIFE CARE HOMES

SPONSOR: Roberts

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Health and Mental Health Policy by a vote of 14 to 0.

This bill defines an "End-of-Life Care Home" as a residence operated by a nonprofit organization that provides a home-like dwelling place for terminally ill residents with a life expectancy of six months or less who are enrolled in a hospice program. The bill requires the Department of Health and Senior Services to establish reasonable standards and regulations for these homes and create a process for registration which will cost no more than \$100 per home.

Staff and volunteers of the homes must be trained to recognize abuse, neglect, and exploitation. They must also have a system for grievances and allow inspection by the Department at any time. Homes caring for no more than two persons, or only persons related to the provider are exempt from registration requirements.

Any person in violation of any provision of Section 198.190, RSMo, or making false statements on a registration is guilty of a class A misdemeanor. A person violating this section wherein abuse or neglect of a resident has occurred is guilty of a class E felony.

This bill is similar to HB 1773 (2020).

PROPONENTS: Supporters say these facilities help the dying and their families receive care and assistance from volunteers and staff in a home setting under the supervision of a hospice agency. Proponents also say the facilities encourage family members to be present to help care for their loved ones.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Roberts; Megan Spiering; Arnie C. Dienoff; and Christi M Lero.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

Written testimony has been submitted for this bill. The full written testimony can be found under Testimony on the bill page on the House website.