



MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WITNESS APPEARANCE FORM

BILL NUMBER: HB 700		DATE: 2/22/2021	
COMMITTEE: Crime Prevention			
TESTIFYING: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> IN SUPPORT OF <input type="checkbox"/> IN OPPOSITION TO <input type="checkbox"/> FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES			
WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: ARNIE C. AC "HONEST-ABE" DIENOFF-STATE PUBLIC ADVO		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: arniedienoff@yahoo.com		ATTENDANCE: Written	SUBMIT DATE: 2/22/2021 12:04 PM

THE INFORMATION ON THIS FORM IS PUBLIC RECORD UNDER CHAPTER 610, RSMo.

I am in Support this Bill. By adding the following definitions and prohibiting this activity of inhaling these harsh chemicals, reagents and refrigrants by causing hallucination.



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WITNESS NAME			
INDIVIDUAL:			
WITNESS NAME: MICHAEL R. LEAMER		PHONE NUMBER:	
BUSINESS/ORGANIZATION NAME:		TITLE:	
ADDRESS:			
CITY:		STATE:	ZIP:
EMAIL: Michael.Leamer@courts.mo.gov	ATTENDANCE: Written		SUBMIT DATE: 2/19/2021 3:22 PM
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My former law partner and friend, Danette Rardon was killed on November 25, 2017. Her car was struck broadside by a vehicle traveling approximately 80 mph in a 25 mile per hour zone. The driver of that vehicle had just inhaled "Dust Off" compressed air, conceivably to get "high". Instead of getting high, this man passed out with his foot stuck on the accelerator, ran a red light and killed Danette. The law as currently written prohibits the intentional inhalation of solvents, and lists some specific substances. However, it does not name difluoroethane which is the ingredient that causes the high in "Dust Off", or other refrigerants in other canned air products that are widely abused, by young people in particular, looking for a cheap and accessible "high". The law as currently written is largely unenforceable, see: State of Missouri v. Gay, 566 S.W.3d 622 (Southern District 2018). The court said that the defendant in that case intentionally inhaled a substance containing difluoroethane which is a refrigerant, not a solvent and thus not guilty under the current version of 579.097 R.S.Mo. This is despite the fact that the Defendant was observed inhaling canned air and had just crashed her car on I-44. Solvent is not defined by statute and thus the court relied on Webster's definition, which defines solvent as "a substance that dissolves into another to form a solution". The court noted that there was no evidence that difluoroethane was a solvent and thus the Defendant should not have been found guilty. The proposed amendment to 579.097 merely closes a loophole, and makes the law enforceable in the way the legislature intended. Thank you for your time.