

HCS HB 2599 -- IDENTIFICATION TO PURCHASE ALCOHOL

SPONSOR: Farnan

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Special Committee on Innovation and Technology by a vote of 7 to 0. Motion to "Do Pass" failed by the Standing Committee on Rules- Legislative Oversight by a vote of 3 to 5. The bill was recommitted from the Floor to the Standing Committee on Rules- Legislative Oversight. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules- Legislative Oversight by a vote of 6 to 1 with 1 voting Present.

The following is a summary of the House Committee Substitute for HB 2599.

Currently, any person who supplies intoxicating liquor to a minor or to any person intoxicated or appearing to be in a state of intoxication shall be guilty of a misdemeanor. It shall be a defense to prosecution under this offense if: the purchaser of the intoxicating liquor exhibited to the defendant a form of identification listed in the bill.

Currently, an individual who wants to purchase alcohol from a licensee must present a form of identification as listed in the bill. The bill allows for a secure identity verification system that utilizes an electronic scan mechanism to be used in determining whether the purchaser is 21 years of age or older.

No retailers are required to use a secure identity verification system and all retailers must accept valid government identification for age verification purposes.

The bill also specifies that any information obtained and stored by a secure identity verification system may not be sold without consent. An individual may request to opt out or revoke consent for the continued storage of his or her profile and request deletion from the provider's database.

The bill also requires any business that offers the option to make payments through a secure identity verification system must also accept an alternative method of payment.

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

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that secure identification verification systems make identification verification more efficient. Some

entertainment venues and stores, including sports stadiums and Whole Foods, in other states are using this technology and it makes alcohol sales more efficient.

Testifying in person for the bill were Representative Farnan; Missouri Chamber Of Commerce; and Amazon.

OPPONENTS: Those who oppose the bill expressed concern that if the technology authorized in this bill becomes prevalent in the State, it is likely to become the only option for payment and identification verification. In addition, opponents expressed concerns with the security of information provided to retailers.

Testifying in person against the bill were Armorvine; and Arnie C. Ac Dienoff.

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