

HCS HBs 1531 & 931 -- LIMITED DRIVING PRIVILEGES

SPONSOR: Dolan

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Standing Committee on Judiciary by a vote of 11 to 0. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules-Administrative by a vote of 9 to 0.

The following is a summary of the House Committee Substitute for HBs 1531 & 931.

This bill specifies that an offender may petition the sentencing Court for limited driving privileges upon successful completion of a Department of Corrections substance abuse treatment program or a 120-day institutional treatment program recommended by the Court.

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 this deals with hardship licenses granted by a court following certain actions or procedures. As experience shows, a person should have a license to operate a vehicle but not everyone does. This bill makes it clear that the court that put the person on probation would be in charge of the hardship license for that person. There was a suggestion in testimony to implement a three strikes policy that, if you get three DWIs, you should never be able to drive again.

Testifying in person for the bill were Representative Dolan; Missouri Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers; Mary Fox, Missouri State Public Defender; and Arnie Dienoff.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

OTHERS: Others testifying on the bill say the Judicial Conference did adopt a resolution for the same concept last year. They look forward to working with the sponsor on language.

Testifying in person on the bill was Eric D. Jennings, Judicial Conference of Missouri.

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.