

SS SB 612 with HCA 1 -- ILLEGAL REENTRY

SPONSOR: Cunningham

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with Amendments" by the Standing Committee on Emerging Issues by a vote of 7 to 0.

This bill creates the crime of illegal reentry. An illegal alien commits the crime of illegal reentry if he or she has been removed from the United States due to the violation of certain federal crimes and thereafter enters the State of Missouri and commits the offense of misdemeanor assault or domestic assault, any felony offense, or any crime committed in another state that would be considered an offense of misdemeanor assault or domestic assault, any felony offense under Missouri law. Moreover, any person in charge of a facility in which an illegal alien is detained upon arrest for illegal reentry shall transfer such illegal alien to the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement as soon as practicable.

Illegal reentry is punishable as a class C felony.

HCA 1: This amendment changes the bill so that an alien commits the crime of illegal reentry if he or she has been removed from the United States due to the violation of certain federal crimes and thereafter enters the State of Missouri and changes the offense of illegal reentry to a class E felony.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that there needs to be repercussions for individuals who are deported and then try to reenter the country illegally.

Testifying for the bill was Senator Cunningham.

OPPONENTS: Those opposed to the bill say that immigration falls under the purview of the federal government. States do not have the authority to implement immigration legislation.

Testifying against the bill was the Missouri Immigrant and Refugee Association.