

HCS#2 HB 232 -- PATIENT HEALTH CARE RECORDS

SPONSOR: Cooper, 155 (Portwood)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass by consent" by the Committee on Health Care Policy by a vote of 10 to 0.

Currently, health care providers are allowed to charge a handling fee of \$15 plus a fee of 35 cents per page to copy a patient's health care record. This substitute allows health care providers to charge a reasonable cost-based fee and conditions the furnishing of the records on the payment of this fee. The fee includes copying charges of not more than \$17.05 plus 40 cents per page for the costs of supplies and labor, postage, and notary fees.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2006, FY 2007, and FY 2008.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that the bill will allow providers to recover their labor and postage costs associated with requests for medical records. The fee is based on federal law, and the language is consistent with HIPAA regulations and the regulations of other states.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Portwood; Copies FYI, Incorporated; Missouri State Medical Association; and Missouri State Chiropractors Association.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

Amy Woods, Senior Legislative Analyst