

HCS HB 1182 -- JURISDICTION OF JUVENILE COURTS

SPONSOR: Phillips (Stevenson)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass" by the Committee on Children and Families by a vote of 11 to 0.

This substitute allows a parent, legal guardian, or other person having legal custody of a child at least 15 years of age to petition the court to extend the jurisdiction of the juvenile court until the minor child is 18 years old. These provisions will not apply to a child who has received a high school diploma or its equivalent.

A law enforcement officer, juvenile officer, school personnel, or court personnel will not be held civilly or criminally liable if his or her action or failure to act was based on a good faith belief that the child was not under the jurisdiction of the juvenile court.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2007, FY 2008, and FY 2009.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say the bill is necessary to allow parents to maintain control of their child until his or her eighteenth birthday. With court approval, the child will remain a minor for all purposes under state law and will be subject to compulsory school attendance requirements.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Moore for Representative Stevenson; Missouri Eagle Forum; Missouri Family Network; Woody Cozad, CNS Corporation; Cathy Jackson; Rick Crawford; and Sandra Adams.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

Dominic Lackey, Legislative Analyst