

HCS SB 723 -- LAW ENFORCEMENT PERSONNEL

SPONSOR: Scott (Bruns)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass by consent" by the Committee on Crime Prevention and Public Safety by a vote of 8 to 0.

This substitute allows any person who has completed a high school program of education under Chapter 167, RSMo, obtained a General Educational Developmental (GED) certificate; or obtained advanced education and experience as approved by the Superintendent of the State Highway Patrol to become a member of the patrol or its radio personnel. Currently, members must have graduated from an accredited four-year high school.

The substitute also changes all references in statute of "criminal records and identification division" or "criminal records division" to "central repository."

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2009, FY 2010, and FY 2011.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that the bill will correct an oversight in statute that prohibits graduates of non-accredited high schools from becoming members of the State Highway Patrol.

Testifying for the bill were Senator Scott; State Highway Patrol; and Missouri Family Network.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.