

HCS HB 1108 -- EMERGENCY CALL LOCATION INFORMATION

SPONSOR: Pollock (Lauer)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass by consent" by the Committee on Utilities by a vote of 20 to 0.

This substitute requires a telecommunications carrier and certain commercial mobile service providers to provide, upon request, call location information concerning the user of a telecommunications service or a wireless communications service to a law enforcement official or agency in order to respond to a call for emergency service or to provide information in an emergency situation that involves danger of death or serious physical injury to any person where disclosure of communications relating to an emergency is required without delay. There will be no cause of action in any court against any telecommunications carrier or telecommunications service or commercial mobile service providers as well as telecommunications service or wireless communications services or its officers, employees, agents, or other specified persons for providing this information to a law enforcement official or agency.

These provisions cannot prohibit a telecommunications carrier or commercial mobile service provider from establishing protocols by which it can voluntarily disclose call location information.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2013, FY 2014, and FY 2015.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that the bill will help save lives and locate missing individuals who may be in danger or injured. Emergency phone operators often need to determine the location of a caller if the information cannot be obtained during the 911 call. This technology helped find many victims of the Joplin tornado. Similar legislation has passed in five other states. Most children now have cell phones and companies can use available technology to determine a child's location if his or her parent makes a missing report to the police.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Lauer; Sara Hayes, Mid America Regional Council of 911 Providers; Verizon Communications; and Greg and Melissa Smith.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.