HCS HB 1498 -- SUNDAY LIQUOR SALES

SPONSOR: Franz (Hough)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass" by the Committee on General Laws by a vote of 13 to 0.

This substitute changes the laws regarding Sunday liquor sales.

Currently, a person with a license to sell intoxicating liquor in the original package at retail is authorized to apply for a Sunday liquor sales license. The substitute removes the requirement that the liquor be in its original package and allows any person with a license to sell intoxicating liquor at retail to apply for a Sunday liquor sales license.

The substitute allows any person licensed to sell liquor at retail by the drink for consumption on the premises where sold to use a table tap dispensing system to allow patrons to dispense beer at a table. However, the employee of the licensee must first authorize an amount of beer, not to exceed 32 ounces per patron per authorization, to be dispensed by the system.

The substitute repeals various separate provisions authorizing a person to obtain a special license for Sunday sales of intoxicating liquor, malt liquor, or certain beers, including: wine shops; dance ballrooms in the City of St. Louis; certain hotel and resort restaurants and bars; certain amusement places; certain places of entertainment in Kansas City, St. Louis City, Jackson County, St. Louis County, and St. Charles County; sports stadiums in St. Louis City; airline clubs; and charitable, fraternal, religious, service, or veterans' organizations that are exempt from federal income taxes.

The requirement that certain establishments in St. Louis City or Kansas City have a certain minimum amount of gross receipts in order to obtain a Sunday-by-the-drink license is repealed.

For certain licensees in convention trade areas that hold a Sunday sales license, the permitted time to open on Sundays is changed from 11:00 a.m. or 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.

FISCAL NOTE: Estimated Net Income on General Revenue Fund of \$266,167 in FY 2013, \$319,400 in FY 2014, and \$319,400 in FY 2015. No impact on Other State Funds in FY 2013, FY 2014, and FY 2015.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that the bill establishes uniformity in licensing, requirements, and hours of operation of establishments and will be easier for local governments, law

enforcement, and liquor control to enforce.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Hough; Anheuser Busch, Incorporated; Missouri Restaurant Association; and Missouri Beer Wholesalers Association.

OPPONENTS: Those who oppose the bill say that they do not support any expansion of the current liquor control laws.

Testifying against the bill was Abram Messer, Missouri Baptist Convention.

OTHERS: Others testifying on the bill say that the bill will lead to an increase in the number of liquor licenses, generating additional revenue.

Testifying on the bill was Division of Alcohol and Tobacco Control, Department of Public Safety.