

SB 35 -- SAHARA'S LAW

SPONSOR: Wallingford (Engler)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Committee on General Laws by a vote of 14 to 1.

This bill establishes Sahara's Law that, for all tax years beginning January 1, 2013, authorizes a check-off box on the Missouri individual and corporate income tax forms for contributions to the newly created Pediatric Cancer Research Trust Fund. A taxpayer may donate to the fund by designating a portion of his or her income tax refund to go to the fund or by a separate check. The amount of the donation must be at least \$1 on an individual return or at least \$2 on a combined return. The State Treasurer is required to distribute all moneys in the fund to CureSearch for children's cancer.

The provisions of the bill expire December 31, 2019.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that the bill provides a tax checkoff box for people to voluntarily donate to CureSearch. Every dollar donated will go directly to CureSearch which sends 95% of the funds collected to programs and research for the treatment and cure of pediatric cancer.

Testifying for the bill were Senator Wallingford; and Amy Aldridge.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.