

HCS SCS SB 229 -- DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH DISQUALIFICATION
REGISTRY

SPONSOR: Brown (Grisamore)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Committee on Children,
Families, and Persons with Disabilities by a vote of 11 to 0.

This substitute changes the laws regarding the Department of Mental Health Disqualification Registry regarding individuals who are disqualified from holding any position in any public or private facility, day program, residential facility, or specialized service operated, licensed, certified, accredited, in possession of deemed status, or funded by the department or in a specified mental health facility or program. The substitute adds to the registry a person who has been found guilty of or pleaded guilty or nolo contendere in Missouri to a felony violation of the drug provisions under Chapter 195, RSMo, trafficking in children, stealing, forgery, financial exploitation of the elderly and disabled, identity theft, selling or offering to sell unauthorized recordings, or supporting terrorism, an equivalent felony offense in another state, an equivalent federal felony offense, or an equivalent offense under the federal Uniform Code of Military Justice.

The substitute also adds a person hired after January 1, 2014, who has been found guilty or pleaded guilty or nolo contendere to driving while intoxicated or driving with excessive blood alcohol content and is found by a court to be an aggravated or chronic offender.

A disqualified person may seek an exception to the disqualification from the department director or his designee, especially if the person is in recovery and the disqualifying felony offense was alcohol or drug related.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that the bill changes who is disqualified from working in a mental health facility and expands the list of criminal offenses that are included in the registry.

Testifying for the bill were Senator Brown; and Department of Mental Health.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.