

HCS HB 1248 -- POWDERED ALCOHOL

SPONSOR: Pike

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Standing Committee on General Laws by a vote of 11 to 0. Voted "Do Pass" by the Rules- Legislative Oversight Committee by a vote of 12 to 0.

This bill adds powdered alcohol to the definition of intoxicating liquor used in state liquor control laws. The bill requires anyone shipping or delivering powdered alcohol to a resident of this state for personal use to have an alcohol carrier license.

This bill is the same as HCS HB 29 (2017).

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that powdered alcohol presents a higher risk of alcohol poisoning and other health complications. Unlike regular alcohol, powdered alcohol does not make a person feel full or tired so people are more likely to consume it to excess. Young people can misuse powdered alcohol by snorting it or adding it to other forms of alcohol, thereby increasing its potency and potentially harmful effects. Supporters are particularly concerned about accidental overdoses by young people who can easily conceal and transport this product. Currently, 35 states ban powdered alcohol and 10 other states are considering some form of regulation.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Pike; Missouri Beer Wholesalers Association; Missouri Police Chiefs Association; Missouri State Teachers Association; Missouri School Counselors Association; National Association of Social Workers; Cheyenne Savage, Council For Drug Free Youth; Missouri College Emergency Physicians; and Joy Sweeney, Council For Drug Free Youth.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.