

HB 441 -- PSYCHOLOGIST'S LICENSE

SPONSOR: Fitzwater

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Professional Registration and Licensing by a vote of 11 to 1. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules- Administrative Oversight by a vote of 9 to 0.

This bill includes those who have been ordered to be evaluated in a criminal proceeding involving mental illness in the statutes that regulate complaints against a psychologist's license.

The bill allows a psychologist subject to the complaint by an individual who has been ordered to be evaluated in a criminal proceeding involving mental illness prior to August 28, 2018 to submit a written request to destroy documentation of the complaint and send notification that the board found the complaint to be unsubstantiated.

This bill is the same as HB 2709 (2018).

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that this bill will protect state employee psychologists from unfounded complaints from state-ordered investigations. Without this bill, a psychologist has to report an unfounded complaint to their insurance and for hospital privileges.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Fitzwater; Missouri Psychological Association; and Rick Gowdy, Department of Mental Health.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.