

HCS SCS SB 1 -- CRIMINAL OFFENDERS

SPONSOR: Curls

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Special Committee on Criminal Justice by a vote of 6 to 0. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules- Administrative Oversight by a vote of 9 to 0.

The bill adds property damage in the first degree, stealing, possession of a forging instrumentality, and fraudulent use of a credit device or debit device to the list of offenses that are eligible for expungement.

The bill also specifies conditions under which a court may depart from the applicable minimum term of imprisonment and it specifies to which offenses the minimum terms of imprisonment apply.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that nonviolent offenders deserve a second chance and they deserve to not have collateral consequences from a past offense follow them around for the rest of their lives. This is a great move toward criminal justice reform and this will help individuals contribute to society in a meaningful way.

Testifying for the bill were Senator Curls; American Civil Liberties Union Missouri; Missouri Prosecutor's Association; Empower Missouri; and Missouri Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.