

HB 1338 -- TEACHER LICENSES

Drafting Number: 3349L.01I

SPONSOR or CO-SPONSORS: Relford, Franklin, Davis, Hartzler,  
Seigfreid, Ransdall, Shields

Chairman (for HCS):

Handler: Relford

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass" X "do pass by consent"

by the Committee on Education-Elementary and Secondary by a vote  
of 19 to 0 present 1:

Use Introduced Summary Verbatim:

Modify above as follows:

New summary as follows: This bill makes several changes to the process by which teachers' licenses may be denied or disciplinary action imposed on a certificate of license holder. The bill adds deception in obtaining a license and disciplinary action on an existing license from another jurisdiction to the grounds for discretionary revocation or denial of license. The bill adds furnishing child pornography to a minor to the list of offenses that require license revocation. Under current law, the Attorney General may file charges for financially distressed districts; the bill removes the requirement that the district be financially stressed but specifies that the Attorney General will not file charges for annulment of contracts. The bill clarifies that the State Board of Education as well as the school district may file certain licensure charges, that cases may be settled informally by agreements or voluntary surrender of license, and that

licensure decisions are subject to judicial review. The State Board may refuse to issue or renew a license or may suspend or revoke a license of a person who has surrendered his or her license or has failed to renew it, for any of the grounds mentioned in the bill. The bill also contains several technical changes, primarily in notification procedures.

Emergency Clause:        or Effective Date of:

HCA(s) --

FISCAL NOTE:    Attached:        Not available:

PROPOSERS:    Supporters say that this bill fills in gaps that currently exist in license discipline procedures, such as license actions in another state. The bill preserves due process for those whose licenses may come under review. No district should forego license actions because they cannot afford an attorney, so the requirement that a district be financially stressed before the Attorney General handles the license action has been removed.

Testifying for the bill were Rep. Relford; General Counsel, Department of Elementary and Secondary Education; Governor's office; Missouri School Board Association; Missouri School Administrators Coalition; Missouri State Teachers Association; Missouri Federation of Teachers; Missouri National Education Association; Attorney General's office.

OPPOSERS:    Those who oppose the bill say that There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

Testifying against the bill were

Analyst:    Becky DeNeve, Senior