

HB 564 -- STOLEN LICENSE PLATE TABS

SPONSOR: Boykins

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass" by the Special Committee on Urban Issues by a vote of 7 to 0.

This bill prohibits law enforcement officers from issuing a citation to any person for a missing license plate tab if a vehicle registration check reveals the vehicle is properly registered and the owner indicates the tab has been stolen. Officers may instead issue a warning under these circumstances. If a citation is improperly issued, any court costs will be waived.

FISCAL NOTE: Estimated Cost on General Revenue Fund of Up to \$10,000 in FY 2006, FY 2007, and FY 2008. No impact on Other State Funds in FY 2006, FY 2007, and FY 2008.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that the stealing of license plate tabs is a major problem in Missouri's metropolitan areas and has become a problem in communities all over the state. License plate tab thefts are crimes of opportunity, in that it is highly unlikely that the perpetrator will be caught. The real losers are the honest citizens who become victims of a system that is antiquated and unenforceable to those who wish to break the law. The bill will help honest citizens feel less victimized.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Boykins; and James H. Buchanan, Jr.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

Robert Triplett, Legislative Analyst