

HCS HB 1404 -- ADEQUATE CONTROL OF AN ANIMAL

SPONSOR: Wright (Cox)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass" by the Special Committee on Emerging Issues in Animal Agriculture by a vote of 10 to 1.

This substitute creates the crime of failure to adequately control an animal if the owner intentionally or recklessly fails to adequately control or restrain his or her animal and the animal bites or causes physical injury to a person. Anyone committing this crime will be guilty of a class C misdemeanor for the first offense and a class B misdemeanor for any subsequent offense.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2011, FY 2012, and FY 2013.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that inadequate care or control of an animal is currently the crime of animal neglect. Failure to control an animal needs to be a separate offense to allow for the prosecution of an owner who fails to exercise adequate control which results in physical injury to a person.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Cox; and Missouri Family Network.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.