

HB 1519 -- ASSAULT OF A TRANSIT OPERATOR OR EMPLOYEE OF A MASS
TRANSIT SYSTEM

SPONSOR: Hoskins (80)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass" by the Special Committee on
Urban Issues by a vote of 8 to 0.

This bill expands the crime of assault of a law enforcement officer, a corrections officer, emergency personnel, a highway worker in a construction or work zone, or a probation and parole officer in the first, second, and third degree to include a transit operator and an employee of a mass transit system.

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

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that unfortunately Missouri has had incidents of public transit bus drivers being assaulted. Currently, it is only a misdemeanor. Making the assault a felony so that it is consistent with assaults on other public servants is a good idea.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Hoskins (80); METRO; MO Public Transit Association; Kansas City Area Transportation Authority; and City Utilities of Springfield.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.