

HCS HB 38 -- NOTIFICATION OF JAIL ESCAPES

SPONSOR: Black (Pace)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass by consent" by the Committee on Corrections by a vote of 9 to 0.

This substitute requires the chief law enforcement official responsible for a municipal detention facility or a county or regional jail or the chief administrator of a private jail to notify the Missouri Uniform Law Enforcement System (MULES) as soon as reasonably possible but no later than five hours after an escape of a prisoner who has been convicted of murder in the first degree or a dangerous felony or who is being held on suspicion of having committed murder in the first degree or a dangerous felony. The notification may include the name, description, and photograph of the prisoner as well as any other relevant facts. It must also include the crimes for which the person was incarcerated and contact information for the jail or detention facility in order to report information concerning the whereabouts of the escapee.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2012, FY 2013, and FY 2014.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that the bill addresses a safety issue and will assist law enforcement in making a more rapid response.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Pace; and Police Chief Tom Jackson, City of Ferguson.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

OTHERS: Others testifying on the bill say that the patrol is in the process of upgrading the Missouri Uniform Law Enforcement System which will allow for a better transfer of vital information.

Testifying on the bill was State Highway Patrol.