

HCS HB 170 -- FIREARMS

SPONSOR: Guernsey

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Committee on General Laws by a vote of 9 to 5.

This substitute specifies that it is unlawful for any officer or employee of the state, any political subdivision, or any licensed federal firearms dealer to enforce or attempt to enforce any federal act, law, statute, rule, or regulation created or effective on or after January 1, 2013, relating to a personal firearm, firearm accessory, or ammunition that is owned or manufactured commercially or privately in the state and that remains exclusively within the boundaries of the state. Any federal official, agent, or employee who enforces or attempts to enforce any federal act, order, law, statute, rule, or regulation created or effective on or after January 1, 2013, pertaining to these types of firearms, accessories, or ammunition will be guilty of a class D felony. Any person in violation of any federal law relating to the manufacture, sale, transfer, or possession of a firearm, firearm accessory, or ammunition owned or manufactured and retained exclusively within the boundaries of the state may request the Attorney General to defend him or her for the violation.

The substitute specifies that any federal law, rule, regulation, or order created or effective on or after January 1, 2013, is unenforceable in the state if it attempts to ban or restrict ownership of a semi-automatic firearm or any magazine of a firearm or requires any firearm, magazine, or other firearm accessory to be registered in any manner.

The substitute contains an emergency clause.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that this bill takes a strong position to protect a Missouri citizen's fundamental rights and allows the state to defend citizens regarding these rights.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Guernsey; Marc Perez; Missouri Family Network; Ron Calzone; and Philip Todd.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

OTHERS: Others testifying on the bill say a U.S. attorney prosecuting a case could be found guilty of a crime under the bill's provisions. Additionally, issues could arise if a state law enforcement officer is required to arrest a federal law enforcement officer.

Testifying on the bill was Grant Shostak.