

HCS SB 773 -- PUBLIC SAFETY

SPONSOR: Dempsey (Spencer)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Committee on Crime Prevention and Public Safety by a vote of 9 to 3.

This bill changes various laws relating to public safety. It:

(1) Allows Missouri counties of Platte, Clay, Ray, Jackson and Cass, and the Kansas counties of Johnson, Leavenworth, Miami, and Wyandotte, known as the Mid America Regional Council, to be permitted to respond to critical incidents or in noncritical incidents to any other county in the mutual aid region with lawful reciprocal emergency aid (Section 44.095, RSMo);

(2) Currently, the county commission of all first, second, or fourth class counties may promulgate specified rules within the counties. The bill changes this authority to include all noncharter counties (Section 49.266);

(3) Specifies that a county commission may determine that a burn ban order is appropriate for a county because the Keetch-Byram Drought Index reflects 425 or greater for the designated county or the National Weather Service has issued a "red flag" warning for the county (Section 49.266);

(4) Specifies that the definitions in Section 57.015 will be used for the purposes of Section 57.275 pertaining to dismissals of deputies (Section 57.015);

(5) Moves the authority to regulate corporate security advisors from the Board of Police Commissioners to the Department of Public Safety (Sections 84.340, 571.030, and 590.750);

(6) Authorizes the City of Liberty and North Kansas City to impose, upon voter approval, a sales tax of up to .5% solely for the purpose of improving the public safety of the city, including expenditures on equipment, salaries and benefits, and facilities for police, fire, and emergency medical providers (Section 94.902);

(7) Authorizes first responders, firefighters, or law enforcement personnel with a valid driver's license and prior experience operating emergency vehicles to drive ground ambulances in emergency situations (Section 190.105);

(8) Allows a qualified first responder to obtain and administer naloxone to a person suffering from an apparent narcotic or opiate-related overdose (Section 190.255);

(9) Specifies that each member of an emergency services board of directors is subject to recall from office by the registered voters of the election district from which he or she was elected and specifies how that process must commence (Section 190.336);

(10) Changes the laws regarding eligibility for compensation for emergency personnel under the Line of Duty Compensation Act. The bill revises the definition of "killed in the line of duty" to when death is caused by an accident or violence of another; the individual is in the active performance of his or her duties in his or her respective profession and there is a relationship between the accident or commission of the act of violence and the performance of the duty, even if the individual is off duty, on a meal or other break, or traveling to or from employment; death is the natural and probable consequence of the injury; and the death occurs within 300 weeks from the date the injury was received (Section 287.243);

(11) Requires any privately owned company that is operating under contract with a school district to transport school children and owns a school bus licensed in another state to notify the appropriate school district of the use of the school bus prior to the utilization of the school bus to transport school children (Section 304.055);

(12) Requires all school buses privately owned and operated under contract with any school district in this state to have operational two-way voice communication services on board prior to the utilization of the school bus to transport school children (Section 304.065);

(13) Prohibits a privately owned school bus company licensed in Missouri to conduct vehicle safety inspections or emissions tests from inspecting any school bus owned by the company for purposes of these provisions (Section 307.375);

(14) Requires all privately-owned bus companies to keep and provide upon request all maintenance and inspection records and requires the school district contracting with the bus company to maintain these records and make them available (Section 307.375);

(15) Sets the candidate filing fee for a fire protection district board seat at the amount equal to the filing fee for a candidate for county office, which currently is \$50 (Sections 321.130 and 321.210);

(16) Establishes Leslie's Law which specifies that a person commits the crime of involuntary manslaughter in the first degree if he or she unlawfully distributes or delivers any controlled

substance to another person and that person's injection, inhalation, or ingestion of the controlled substance causes that person's death. The act of distributing or delivering a controlled substance is the cause of death when the injection, inhalation, or ingestion of the substance is an antecedent but for which the death would have occurred and the death was not too remote in its occurrence as to have a just bearing on the defendant's liability or too dependent upon conduct of another person which was unrelated to the injection, inhalation, or ingestion of the substance or its effect as to have a just bearing on the defendant's liability (Section 565.024);

(17) Requires the prosecuting or circuit attorney to file a motion for the court-ordered sexually transmitted disease testing of a defendant charged with certain sexual offenses upon the request of the victim with notice given to the defense attorney (Section 566.135);

(18) Beginning January 1, 2016, requires any telecommunicator authorized to dispatch emergency medical calls other than 911 calls to have completed 12 hours of training from an accredited and certified entity as specified in the bill and 24 hours beginning January 1, 2017. Any costs associated with this training must be paid by the agency employing the telecommunicator and be subject to appropriations. Any emergency medical response agency that has an employee who is not in compliance with these training requirements must not be allowed to dispatch emergency medical calls and must consolidate this function with another agency that provides 24 hours of dispatching staffing level coverage seven days a week (Section 650.345); and

(19) Authorizes the state fire marshal and the state elevator board to inspect and investigate any elevator if a serious injury or death has occurred relating to the elevator (Section 701.382).

The bill includes an emergency clause for Sections 57.015, 84.340, 571.030, and 590.750.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that this bill will increase efficiency in situations when an additional person is needed to drive an ambulance and in emergency service boards across the state.

Testifying for the bill were Senator Rupp; Missouri Ambulance District; Mehlville Fire Protection District; and Vernon County Ambulance District.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.