

HB 54 -- CRIMINAL JUSTICE CURRICULUM

SPONSOR: Walton Gray

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Elementary and Secondary Education by a vote of 11 to 0 to 2.

This bill allows school districts or charter schools that provide instruction for grades 7-12 to incorporate studies of the criminal justice system into the curriculum. If a school district or charter school chooses to include criminal justice education in their curriculum, the instruction must include an emphasis on career opportunities in law enforcement. School districts or charter schools may seek input on criminal justice curriculum from local law enforcement organizations.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that this bill will encourage more young people to consider law enforcement as a career option and potentially could decrease the negative stigma sometimes associated with law enforcement.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Walton Gray and Clarence Hines.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.