

HB 1264 with HCA 1 -- MINI CIRCUS

SPONSOR: Korman

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with Amendments" by the Standing Committee on Agriculture Policy by a vote of 11 to 5.

This bill exempts Mini Circuses from the Large Carnivore Act.

HCA 1: Removes mini circuses from the list of entities exempt from the Large Carnivore Act, but limits any fees the Department of Agriculture can charge a mini circus to no more than \$10 per exhibit or display.

PROponents: Supporters say that the bill would help small, traveling entities that display large carnivores in the state. Traveling large carnivore shows meet federal requirements, but must still pay state fees. By no longer having to pay state fees, that money can be spent caring for the animals.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Korman and Missouri Federation of Animal Owners.

OPponents: Those who oppose the bill say that there are no current regulations for mini circuses. This bill would remove all state reporting and safety requirements for the large carnivores that are part of a mini circus.

Testifying against the bill were Kansas City Zoo and St. Louis Zoo.