

HB 1190 -- MAINTAINING POLICE RECORDS

SPONSOR: Allen

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass by consent" by the Committee on Crime Prevention and Public Safety by a vote of 13 to 0.

This bill repeals provisions regarding the maintaining of police records in municipalities located within Jackson County, Jefferson County, St. Charles County, and St. Louis County.

FISCAL NOTE: No impact on state funds in FY 2013, FY 2014, and FY 2015.

PROponents: Supporters say that requiring certain municipalities to make and store paper copies of all police records is burdensome, redundant, and unnecessary. With today's technology and the current system of sharing information between departments and the highway patrol, these paper records are not required or helpful. The time and expense of making paper copies, transferring them over to storage, and storing them indefinitely is wasteful. If a record is ordered expunged, often the paper records in storage regarding this incident are not being destroyed as required. Adequate electronic backups have been in place for some time and there already is a separate requirement to maintain records for a specified period of time. If a municipality chooses to continue with a paper backup system, the bill will not prevent it from doing so.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Allen; and State Highway Patrol.

OPponents: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.