

HCS HB 1549 -- NO-CALL LIST

SPONSOR: Franz (Richardson)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "do pass" by the Committee on General Laws by a vote of 12 to 0.

This substitute changes the laws regarding the state's No-call List to allow a residential subscriber to have his or her wireless telephone number added to the list. Currently, the definition of "residential subscriber" is a person who has subscribed to residential telephone service from a local exchange company or the other persons living or residing with the person. The substitute changes it to a person who, for primarily personal and familial use, has subscribed to residential telephone service, wireless service or similar service, or the other persons living or residing with the person.

Currently, the definition of "telephone solicitation" is any voice communication over a telephone line from a live operator, through the use of ADAD equipment or by other means for the purpose of encouraging the purchase or rental of, or investment in, property, goods or services, but does not include specified communications. The substitute changes it to any voice, facsimile, short messaging service (SMS), or multimedia messaging service (MMS) for that purpose.

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

PROponents: Supporters say that the bill will allow the Attorney General's Office to have a No-Call List that actually works by adding cell phone numbers to the current list that presently only consists of land-line telephone numbers. Since January, over 800 Missourians have attempted to register their cell phone numbers on the list, but the law doesn't allow the Attorney General's Office to add these numbers. Today, cell phone use is more prevalent and the law needs to be expanded to include these telephone numbers.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Richardson; and Office of the Attorney General.

OPponents: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

OTHERS: Others testifying on the bill say that the bill should include language regarding short messaging service and multimedia messaging service in order to accurately reflect current technology.

Testifying on the bill was Missouri Cable Telecommunications Association.