

HCS HB 129 -- MEDICAL TREATMENT CHARGES IN CORRECTIONAL FACILITIES

SPONSOR: Brattin

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with Amendments" by the Standing Committee on Corrections by a vote of 8 to 2. Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Select Committee on Judiciary by a vote of 7 to 3.

This bill requires any inmate receiving an on-site non-emergency medical examination or treatment from the correctional facility's medical staff to be assessed 50 cents per visit. The bill provides specified guidelines the department must follow when authorizing and charging for medical treatment of an inmate.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that on average, inmates visit the infirmary five times per month. By charging a co-pay, it would reduce unnecessary visits and help keep health care cost down.

Testifying for the bill was Representative Brattin.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

OTHERS: Were available to provide information to the committee.

Testifying on the bill were Alex Eaton, ACLU of Missouri and Department Of Corrections.