

HB 1436 -- DRIVING WHILE INTOXICATED

SPONSOR: Kelley

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Civil and Criminal Proceedings by a vote of 7 to 1. Voted "Do Pass" by the Select Committee on Judiciary by a vote of 7 to 0.

This bill establishes Toby's Law, which specifies that a person who has pled guilty to or been found guilty of driving while intoxicated must complete a victim impact program approved by the court and is responsible for any charges imposed by the program.

The program must be attended in person, unless the individual can establish that there are extraordinary circumstances preventing in-person attendance.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that currently a judge has discretion to require an offender to attend a victim impact panel. This bill specifies that the victim impact panel is mandatory. Not every judge orders attendance at a victim impact panel; this bill would change that and make such attendance mandatory.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Kelley; Johanna Henry; Abram Chess Messer; and Missouri Family Network.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.