HCS HB 1945 -- AUTOMATED TRAFFIC ENFORCEMENT

SPONSOR: Spencer

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with Amendments" by the Standing
Committee on Government Efficiency by a vote of 11 to 0. Voted "Do
Pass" by the Select Committee on General Laws by a vote of 7 to 0.

Beginning August 28, 2016, this bill prohibits any county, city,
town, village, municipality, state agency, or other political
subdivision of this state from enacting, adopting, or enforcing any
law, ordinance, regulation, order, or other provision that
authorizes the use of an automated traffic system.

Any county, city, town, village, municipality, state agency, or
other political subdivision that currently has an automated traffic
enforcement system installation or maintenance contract with a
company or entity on August 28, 2016, must complete or terminate
the contract by September 1, 2017.

The bill contains a referendum clause and will not become effective
unless approved by the voters of this state.

This bill is similar to HB 234 (2015).

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that automated traffic enforcement
systems delegate policing to third parties; raise privacy issues in
regard to third parties collecting information on citizens;
penalize the car owner, who may not have been the driver; are used
as a revenue generator; and increase the risk of accidents due to
sudden changes in vehicle speed.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Spencer and Edward A
Shoeherd.

OPPONENTS: Those who oppose the bill say that the legislature
should not take away the ability of a local municipality to decide
what is best for it.

Testifying against the bill were City Of Kansas City; Missouri
Fraternal Order Of Police; Missouri Police Chiefs Association;
Missouri Association Of Prosecuting Attorneys; and the Missouri
Municipal League.