

HCS HBs 1809 & 1570 -- SPORTS OFFICIALS

SPONSOR: Pollitt (52)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Standing Committee on General Laws by a vote of 10 to 2. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules- Legislative Oversight by a vote of 6 to 2.

The following is a summary of the House Committee Substitute for HB 1809.

This bill expands the definition of "special victim" under Section 565.002, RSMo, to include sports officials at a sporting event while performing their duties as sports officials.

The following is a summary of the public testimony from the committee hearing. The testimony was based on the introduced version of the bill.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that there needs to be a bill that protects referees. Supporters also say that this bill will address physical abuse and send a message that Missouri supports sports officials.

Testifying for the bill was Representative Pollitt.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

OTHERS: Others testifying on the bill say that there is a decline in register officials. People are concerned that they will be physically and verbally abused for being a sports official.

Testifying on the bill was Kenny Seifert, Missouri State High School Activities Association.