

HCS #2 HB 1896 -- MEDICAL MARIJUANA INDUSTRY

SPONSOR: Roberts (161)

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Standing Committee on General Laws by a vote of 13 to 0. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee of Rules- Legislative Oversight by a vote of 10 to 0. Recommitted to the Standing Committee on Rules- Administrative Oversight and was voted "Do Pass with HCS #2" by a vote of 7 to 0.

The following is a summary of the House Committee Substitute for HB 1896.

This bill prohibits a state agency from disclosing to the federal government any information of a person who applied for a medical marijuana card. Any violation of this is a class E felony.

Under the provisions of this bill, the Department of Health and Senior Services (DHSS) shall require all employees, officers, managers, staff, and owners of marijuana facilities to submit fingerprints for criminal background checks to the State Highway Patrol. The fingerprint submissions must be a part of the medical marijuana facility application. All fingerprint cards and fees must be sent to the State Highway Patrol. The fingerprints will also be forwarded to the FBI for a federal criminal background check.

This bill shall be effective upon its passage and approval or July 1, 2020, whichever occurs later.

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 DHSS is seeking statutory authority to conduct a federal background check for a medical marijuana facility application. Proponents testified that DHSS already has constitutional authority to conduct this background check. They also want to prevent felons and criminals from working in the medical marijuana industry. Supporters want to ensure that only people with integrity are in the industry.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Roberts; Joe Bednar, Sarcoxie Nursery; Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services; and Arnie C. "AC" Dienoff.

OPponents: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

OTHERS: Others testifying on the bill say that the Missouri Uniform Law Enforcement System (MULES) is a database that provides Missouri criminal information and that National Crime Information Center (NCIC) is a database that provides federal criminal information.

Testifying on the bill was Missouri State Highway Patrol.