

SCS HCS HB 362 -- GOVERNMENT TRANSPARENCY
(Vetoed by Governor)

GOVERNMENT LENDING TRANSPARENCY (Section 29.420, RSMo)

This bill establishes the "Government Lending Transparency Act".

The bill requires each administering agency to report on all state lending programs and credit support programs to the Auditor. Each administering agency shall report annually to the Auditor before August 31st the total dollar amount of all lending programs administered by the agency as well as the total amount of debt supported by credit support programs administered by the agency. This bill also requires each administered agency to report to the Auditor reasonable estimates of the costs of likely defaults on lending programs and credit support programs administered by the agency, using equivalent private market debts to evaluate the likelihood and costs of defaults when possible. The bill requires the Auditor to make an annual report compiling the data received from the administering agencies and submit the report to the General Assembly annually before December 15th. Intentional or knowing failure to comply with any reporting requirement contained in these provisions shall be punishable by a fine of up to \$2,000.

SAFETY REPORTING SYSTEM FOR EMPLOYEES OF CHILDREN'S DIVISION
(Section 37.717 and 210.152)

This bill requires the Office of the Child Advocate to create a safety reporting system for employees of the Children's Division to report information regarding the safety of those served by the Division and the safety of the Division's Employees. The bill specifies under what circumstances the identity of the individual who reports to the system shall be confidential.

FEES (Sections 479.162 and 610.026)

Under this bill, a defendant cannot be charged a fee for obtaining a police report, probable cause statement, or any video relevant to a traffic stop or arrest for the purposes of preparing for a proceeding for a municipal ordinance violation or any other proceeding before a municipal court if the charge carries the possibility of 15 days or more in jail or confinement. The defendant can submit a written request for discovery for such record to the prosecutor.

Currently, public governmental bodies are required to provide access to and, upon request, furnish copies of public records, with specified exceptions. This bill states that a request for public records shall be considered withdrawn if the requestor fails to

remit all fees within 30 days of a request for payment of the fees by the public governmental body, prior to making the copies. If the same or a substantially similar request for public records is made within six months after the expiration of the 30 day period, then the public governmental body may request payment of the same fees made for the original request that has expired in addition to any allowable fees necessary to fulfill the subsequent request.

CLOSED RECORDS (Section 610.021)

This bill allows a public governmental body to close records related to security and evacuation procedures, including software or surveillance companies that secure the building, for public governmental property. The bill allows a public governmental body to close records if the records are related to email addresses and telephone numbers submitted to a public governmental body by individuals or entities for the sole purpose of receiving electronic or other communications. This bill also allows a public governmental body to close records of utility usage and bill records for customers of public utilities unless the customer requests them or authorizes their release.