

HB 1143 -- SEXUAL OFFENDERS

SPONSOR: Busick

Currently, an individual found guilty of certain offenses is prohibited from residing within 1000 feet of any public or private school, any child care facility, or the residence of his or her former victim. Such individuals are also prohibited from being physically present in or loitering within 500 feet of a child care facility, public park with playground equipment, a public swimming pool, or certain museums. Additionally, such individuals are prohibited from serving as an athletic coach, manager, or athletic trainer for any sports team in which a child less than 17 is a member. This bill adds furnishing pornographic material to a minor when the victim is under the age of 14 or when the offense is a felony to the list of sexual offense convictions that would subject a sexual offender to these limitations.

Under current law, if a person has been convicted of certain sexual offenses, he or she may not knowingly be present or loiter within 500 feet of certain places that cater primarily to minors. Under this bill, the person may be present in certain places if the offender is present with his or her child or grandchild.

When a sexual offender who is required to register on the sexual offender registry is eligible for removal from the registry, he or she may petition the court for removal. Currently, if the offender's petition is denied for certain reasons, he or she must wait at least five years from the date of the denial to file another petition. Under this bill, the offender may file a new petition after at least one year from the date the petition was denied.

Lastly, this bill requires offenders who are required to register under the federal Sexual Offender Registration and Notification Act (SORNA) for certain sexual offenses to register in Missouri as a Tier I sexual offender.