

HCS HB 1488 -- TELECOMMUNICATIONS

SPONSOR: Porter

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Standing Committee on Utilities by a vote of 7 to 0.

The following is a summary of the House Committee Substitute for HB 1488.

This bill adds call spoofing, as defined in the bill, as a method of telephone solicitation prohibited under provisions of law relating to the telemarketing no-call list and modifies that law so that it applies to business subscribers as well as residential subscribers.

The bill also establishes the "Caller ID Anti-Spoofing Act", which creates the offense of unlawful caller identification spoofing. A person commits such offense if he or she enters or causes to be entered, false information into a caller ID service with the malicious intent to deceive, defraud, or mislead the recipient of the call, or the person places a call knowing that false information was entered into a caller ID service with the malicious intent to deceive, defraud, or mislead the recipient of the call.

The offense is a class E felony.

Call recipients may bring action as members of a class, and the Attorney General may initiate legal proceedings or intervene in legal proceedings on behalf of call recipients.

This bill is similar to SCS HCS HB 242 (2021).

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 this bill will protect consumers from deceptive and fraudulent calls.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Porter. Additional written testimony was submitted in support of the bill.

OPPONENTS: Those who oppose the bill say that the association has concerns with restrictions placed on funding for broadband.

Testifying against the bill was Missouri Association of Municipal Utilities.

Written testimony has been submitted for this bill. The full written testimony can be found under Testimony on the bill page on the House website.