

Committee on Regulated Industries

CS/HB 105, 1st Eng. — Open House Parties

by Judiciary Committee and Rep. Goodson and others (CS/SB 746 by Criminal Justice Committee and Senator Altman)

The bill enhances the penalty for a second or subsequent violation of the prohibition against knowingly hosting an open house party where alcohol or drugs are possessed or consumed by a minor without having taken reasonable steps to prevent such possession or consumption. The penalty increases from a second degree misdemeanor (punishable by up to 60 days in jail and/or a fine not exceeding \$500) to a first degree misdemeanor (punishable by up to one year in jail and/or a fine not exceeding \$1,000).

The bill creates a misdemeanor of the first degree for a violation of the open house party law that causes or contributes to causing serious bodily injury or death to a minor, or when a minor causes or contributes to causing serious bodily injury or death to another as a result of the minor's consumption of alcohol or drugs at the open house party.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect July 1, 2011.

Vote: Senate 38-1; House 116-0