

## Legislation Text

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**File #:** BILL NO. 22-86, **Version:** 1

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An Ordinance amending the Code of Ordinances of the City of Lee's Summit, Missouri by enacting a new Section 17-62. Child Abuse., providing generally for the creation of the offense of Child Abuse and specifying the penalty for violation. (CEDC 4/13/22)

### Issue/Request:

All municipal child abuse cases are currently filed under Sec. 17-58 - Endangering the welfare of a child. This ordinance addresses the security around the child and requires no physical injury. An adult caring for a minor is legally obligated to ensure the minor is not exposed to harmful situations. When they fail to protect a minor sufficiently, a charge under this ordinance is appropriate. Child abuse is non accidental physical injury to a child and can include striking, kicking, burning, or biting the child, or any action that results in a physical injury of the child. The act of affirmatively harming a child and the act of putting a child at risk are two very different crimes and should be addressed by two different ordinances. The consequences and sentences for each differ, as well. Adopting a child abuse ordinance will help us to ensure these cases are handled appropriately both now and long term, helping to keep children safe.

### Proposed Committee Motion:

FIRST MOTION: I move for second reading of an Ordinance amending Chapter 4, Alcoholic Beverages, Article III. Licenses, Division 2 Types of licenses; Fees, of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Lee's Summit, Missouri to revise the provisions relating to Sunday hours of sales in accordance with State law.

SECOND MOTION: I move for adoption of an Ordinance amending Chapter 4, Alcoholic Beverages, Article III. Licenses, Division 2 Types of licenses; Fees, of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Lee's Summit, Missouri to revise the provisions relating to Sunday hours of sales in accordance with State law.

Brian W. Head, City Attorney  
Abby Pennell, City Prosecutor

Staff recommends approval of this ordinance