

# ALLIANCE INSIDE

Keeping you informed on municipal issues from inside the Capitol



An MPUA Publication



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## UTILITY COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS FINALIZED

Committee assignments relevant to muni utilities were recently announced. The House pared down from four to one utility committee. Chaired by Rep. Rocky Miller (R-Lake Ozark), the committee is composed of thirteen and encompasses issues previously sent to the utility infrastructure, energy and environ., and telecom. committees of past years. New committee faces include Dean Plocher (R-Clayton), Bruce DeGroot (R-Chesterfield), Rick Francis (R-Perryville), and Tommie Pierson, Jr (D-St. Louis). Other House committees of municipal utility interest will be chaired by Lyndall Fraker (R-Marshfield) and Sonya Anderson (R-Willard), respectively leading the committees on local government and conservation/

natural resources.

In the Senate, Ryan Silvey (R-Kansas City) remains chair of the influential Commerce, Consumer Protection, Energy, and Environ. Committee with Ed Emery (R-Lamar) as vice-chair. New faces on the eleven member committee include: Jake Hummel (D-St. Louis) and Jamilah Nasheed (D-St. Louis).

In last weeks' news, Governor Eric Greitens signed an executive order banning state employees from accepting lobbyist gifts and prohibiting his staff from becoming lobbyists until after he leaves office. A largely symbolic move, its design sets the tone for more meaningful legislative action. The House is moving quickly and leaders are optimistic that past Senate opposition can be

overcome. Greitens issued three other orders in as many days which suspend all state rulemaking and starts a regulatory review, establishes a state COO, and activation of the state emergency operations center in response to last weekend's expected ice storm.

Hearings began on legislation banning employment practices that require union membership. The House expects to send the measure to the Senate by month's end. Also, the budget committees heard that Missouri is expected to end the fiscal year about \$40 million short and could be nearly \$460 million in shortfall next fiscal year. The budget situation poses a fiscal problem just as the state begins the phase in of a tax-cut package approved several years ago.

## IN THE NEWS THIS WEEK . . .

- [Greitens takes over as governor, targets lobbyists](#) - Associated Press
- [Greitens issues executive order to curb state regulations](#) - St. Louis Public Radio
- [Missouri lawmakers take first steps toward right to work](#) - Associated Press
- [Missouri faces 'dire' budget hole, may need \\$456 million in cuts](#) - St. Louis Post-Dispatch
- [Emery's bills look to modernize Missouri utility grids and rate adjustments](#) - The Missouri Times

## MEET YOUR LEGISLATOR

**Representative**  
**Dean Plocher**  
R - District 89



**Elected to House:**  
2015

**Committees:**  
Vice-Chair, Utilities; Economic Development

**Lives in:** St. Louis

**MPUA Cities:** Kirkwood

**Tidbit:** Representative Ploucher is a practicing attorney and owns his own law practice. He formerly served as a Municipal Judge in the 21st Judicial Circuit.

## BILL BYTES: A quick look at bills being tracked by MPUA

[Find the complete bill report online here.](#)

[HB 72](#) [McGaugh, Joe Don\(R\)](#)

Changes the laws regarding condemnation proceedings.

[HB 247](#) [Alferman, Justin\(R\)](#)

Establishes procedures to the sale of municipally-owned water or sewer systems.

[HB 383](#) [Anderson, Sonya\(R\)](#)

Prohibits a municipality or utility company from holding an owner of a premises liable for the occupant's delinquent utility payments.

[SB 57](#) [Holsman, Jason\(D\)](#)

Modifies the definition of "customer-generator" in the Net Metering and Easy Connection Act.

[SB 270](#) [Schaaf, Rob\(R\)](#)

Modifies provisions relating to public utilities.

## LINKS

[Find Your Legislator](#)  
[House Session Dates](#)  
[Senate Session Dates](#)  
[MPUA Website](#)

## MPUA CALENDAR

**January 24 | 10 am**  
MAMU Legislative  
Committee Mtg  
**Gov. Office Bldg 315**

**February 14 | 10 am**  
MAMU Legislative  
Committee Mtg  
**Gov. Office Bldg 315**

**March 9 | 8:30 am**  
MPUA Board Mtg.  
**Hilton Garden Inn -  
Event Center**

**Feb. 27-Mar. 1**  
APPA Legislative Rally  
**Washington, DC**

## TRAINING

*Spring Tech 2016*  
March 15- Rolla  
March 16 - Fulton



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