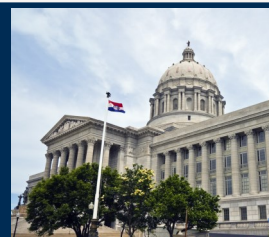
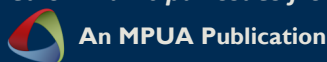


# ALLIANCE INSIDE

Keeping you informed on municipal issues from inside the Capitol



Volume 6, Issue 3  
January 23, 2017

## BILL WEAKENS MUNI WATER/SEWER UTILITY OWNERSHIP VOTES

[HB 247](#), a bill to increase private influence in the sale of public water and sewer utilities, is slated for public hearing on Wednesday, January 25 at noon. [Rep. Justin Alfermann](#) (R-Hermann) will introduce his bill to lower the election threshold for selling a municipal water or sewer utility from a two-thirds vote to a simple majority. MPUA opposes this measure as it allows utilities in some cases to be sold without a public vote. The measure also increases the risks of local ratepayers losing self determination in utility matters. The bill will be heard in the House Local Government committee, chaired by [Rep. Lyndall Fraker](#) (R-Marshfield).

Last week, the House sent its Right-to-Work bill to the Senate by an overwhelming vote of 100-59. Also, prevailing wage became a hot topic for discussion. First, Governor Eric Greitens gave his [State of the State speech](#) to the combined House and Senate. In addition to his talk of making Missouri a Right-to-Work state and improving Missouri's ethics laws, he mentioned the need to repeal prevailing wage laws that "drive up the cost of important construction work that needs to get done. It hurts rural workers. It sets back rural families." The next day, MPUA supported bill [SB 29](#), introduced by [Sen. David Sater](#) (R-Cassville), which had its first public hearing before the Senate General Laws committee chaired by [Sen. Bob](#)

[Onder](#) (R-Lake St. Louis). SB 29 fixes the definitions of construction and maintenance recently changed by litigation.

Also this week, MPUA joined other utility industry groups in sponsoring the annual Missouri One Call reception for legislators. The event was well attended. Capitol insiders indicate that there will be legislation introduced to change underground protection laws. MPUA will monitor any legislation introduced and report on the impact it may have on municipal utilities.

Don't forget to join MPUA on Tuesday at 10am for its monthly legislative committee meeting in Jefferson City. Check our [website](#) for more details on this important meeting of member utilities.

## IN THE NEWS THIS WEEK . . .

[Missouri House follows Greitens' advice and passes Right to Work bill](#) - Missouri.net

[Greitens announces new Department of Natural Resources head](#) - AP

[Speaking of— Opening Speeches](#) - Bob Priddy

[In first State of State, Greitens outlines ambitious agenda](#) - St. Louis Public Radio

[Missouri House passes bill banning lobbyist gifts](#) - AP

## MEET YOUR LEGISLATOR

**Senator Dan Hegeman**  
R - District 12

**Elected to Senate:**  
2014

### Committees:

Chair, Local Government and Elections; Vice-Chair, Economic Development

**MPUA Cities:** Cameron, Milan, Unionville, Trenton, Gallatin, Albany, Stanberry, Bethany, Rock Port, Plattsburg, and Ravenwood

**Tidbit:** Senator Hegeman, a lifelong farmer, currently serves as community affairs manager for Kansas City Power & Light.



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

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

[HB 85](#) [Redmon, Craig\(R\)](#)

Adds public utility vehicles to the list of vehicles covered under the "Move Over Law." **NOTE:** Hearing 1/25 8am in House Transportation Cmte.

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

Establishes procedures to the sale of municipally-owned water or sewer systems. **NOTE:** Hearing 1/25 12pm in House Local Government Cmte.

[HB 656](#) [Rhoads, Shawn\(R\)](#)

Changes the law regarding the uniform wireless communication infrastructure deployment act. **NOTE:** Wireless antennas and pole attachments.

[SB 190](#) [Emery, Ed\(R\)](#)

Modifies the definition of "customer-generator" in the Net Metering and Easy Connection Act. **NOTE:** Hearing 1/25 12pm in Senate Lounge

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

Modifies provisions relating to ratemaking for public utilities. **NOTE:** Concerning termination of sewer services.

## 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



1808 I-70 Dr. SW  
Columbia, MO 65203  
573-445-3279  
[www.mpua.org](#)