

# ALLIANCE INSIDE

Keeping you informed on municipal issues from inside the Capitol



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## PREVAILING WAGE BILLS TAKE CENTER STAGE

This week the House Economic Development Committee will hold public hearings on eight bills relating to prevailing wage (HBs [78](#), [79](#), [104](#), [132](#), [133](#), [309](#), [475](#), [476](#)). The bills range from impacting only schools to setting project cost thresholds before prevailing wage kicks in. Two bills outright repeal prevailing wage. MPUA supports changes to the prevailing wage laws, especially returning the definitions of maintenance and construction to previous interpretations prior to the 2011 Supreme Court ruling in [Utility Service Co. Inc. v. Missouri Department of Labor and Industrial Relations](#). To share your opinions, please email the Chair of the House Economic Development Committee, [Rep. Holly Rehder](#) at [Holly.Rehder@house.mo.gov](mailto:Holly.Rehder@house.mo.gov) (please also cc: [elawson@mpua.org](mailto:elawson@mpua.org)). The public hearings are scheduled Tuesday morning at 8am.

Last week, MPUA testified against [HB 247](#), a bill to increase private influence in the sale of public water and sewer utilities (*MPUA believes this includes electric and gas utilities*). [Rep. Justin Alferman's](#) (R-Hermann) bill lowers the election threshold for selling

a utility from a two-thirds vote to a simple majority [in fourth class cities](#), and [special charter cities](#). A committee vote could come as early as [Wednesday, February 1](#). MPUA opposes this measure as it allows some situations for utilities to be sold without a public vote. The measure also increases the risks of local ratepayers losing self determination in utility matters. To share your opposition, please email the sponsor at [Justin.Alferman@house.mo.gov](mailto:Justin.Alferman@house.mo.gov) and [Rep. Lyndall Fraker](#), Chair of the House Local Government Committee, at [Lyndall.Fraker@house.mo.gov](mailto:Lyndall.Fraker@house.mo.gov) (please also cc: [elawson@mpua.org](mailto:elawson@mpua.org)).

MPUA also testified in support of [HB 85](#) last week. The legislation adds stationary utility vehicles displaying lighted amber or amber and white lights to the list of emergency vehicles for which drivers must move over or slow down. Our testimony centered on the safety of workers.

Lastly, new pole attachment legislation has been filed ([HB 656/SB 354](#)) changing how wireless antennas are treated in the right-of-way, and on public infrastructure and utility poles. Stay tuned.

## IN THE NEWS THIS WEEK . . .

[Greitens will unveil Missouri budget plan next week](#) - St. Louis Post-Dispatch  
[CLIC Organizes Opposition to Missouri's SB186 as a barrier to local net choice](#) - Local Net Choice  
[Targeted by Greitens, Missouri's prevailing wage law considered for repeal](#) - Springfield News-Leader  
[Grain Belt Express gets support from unlikely sources](#) - The Missouri Times  
[Utilities push law change to address infrastructure](#) - AP

### MEET YOUR LEGISLATOR

**Representative**  
**Jack Bondon**  
R - District 56



**Elected to House:**  
2014

**Committees:**  
Utilities, Financial Institutions,  
Rules— Legislative Oversight

**Lives In:** Belton

**Tidbit:** Rep. Bondon is a co-sponsor of HB 340 (Fitzwater) which changes net metering laws such that a customer's net metering may not exceed 100% of their energy requirements and exempts municipal utilities with less than 20,000 meters from net metering.

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

HB [78](#), [79](#), [104](#), [132](#), [133](#), [309](#), [475](#), [476](#)    McGaugh, Love, Lant, Andrews

Numerous proposals to change prevailing wage  
**NOTE:** Public Hearing on Tuesday at 8am, H-Economic Development

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

Increases buyer influence in the sale of municipal utilities  
**NOTE:** Cmte. vote as early as Feb 1. See narrative on voicing opposition.

[HB 386](#)    [Remole, Tim\(R\)](#)

Establishes a minimum clearance for high voltage direct current lines above 470 kV to 50 feet above land and 55 feet above water.  
**NOTE:** Public Hearing on Wednesday at 5pm, H-Utilities

[HB 656 /SB 354](#)    [Rhoads/Rowden](#)

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

[SB 186](#)    [Emery, Ed\(R\)](#)

Modifies the authority of local governments to offer certain communications services. **NOTE:** Limits municipal broadband/fiber utility services

## LINKS

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

## MPUA CALENDAR

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

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

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

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

## TRAINING

*Spring Tech 2016*  
*March 15– Rolla*  
*March 16 - Fulton*  
[MORE INFO](#)



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