

ALLIANCE INSIDE

Keeping you informed on municipal issues from inside the Capitol



Volume 6, Issue 5
February 7, 2017

NET METERING PUBLIC HEARING ON WEDNESDAY

This week the [House Utilities Committee](#) will hold a hearing on a net metering bill exempting small municipal and cooperative utilities from state net metering mandates ([HB 340](#)). The bill also allows for utilities of 20,000 meters or greater to establish alternative rate structures for net metering customers and provides "truth in advertising" protections to ensure solar vendors provide accurate rate terms from a customer's utility. MPUA supports this legislation. To share your opinions, please email the House Utilities Chair, [Rep. Rocky Miller](#) at rocky.miller@house.mo.gov and the sponsor, [Rep. Travis Fitzwater](#) at travis.fitzwater@house.mo.gov (please also cc: elawson@mpua.org). The public hearing is scheduled Wednesday at 5pm.

Last week, MPUA testified in support of a number of prevailing wage bills (HBs [78](#), [132](#), [309](#), [475](#)) that range from setting cost thresholds before prevailing wage kicks in to fixing maintenance and construction definitions to previous interpretations prior to the 2011 Supreme Court ruling in [Utility Service Co. Inc. v. MO Dept. of Labor and Industrial Relations](#). MPUA

expects a committee substitute which may narrow the discussion to a dollar threshold. Stay tuned.

[HB 247](#) was voted out of the [House Local Government Committee](#) last week and heads for floor debate. This bill increases private buyer influence in the sale of public water and sewer utilities. In a committee substitute, the bill was changed to only affect [fourth class cities](#) and lower the election threshold from 2/3 to a majority vote to sell a water or sewer utility into private ownership. Provisions to allow a sale without a vote, the impact on special charter cities, and inclusion of natural gas and electric utilities were dropped. MPUA still opposes the bill as local ratepayers lose self determination in utility matters and public discourse is limited in a sale election. To share your opposition, please email your [state representative](#) and the sponsor, [Rep. Justin Alferman](#), at Justin.Alferman@house.mo.gov (please cc: elawson@mpua.org).

Whispers: Rumor is that [Senator Emery's](#) broadband bill ([SB 186](#)) could be heard in [Committee](#) as early as Tuesday, Feb 14.

IN THE NEWS THIS WEEK . . .

- [Greitens lays out budget proposal, criticizes "special interests"](#) - St. Louis Public Radio
- [House committee sets sights on repealing prevailing wage](#) - Missourian
- [Alferman bill easing sale of municipal utilities passes House committee](#) - Hermann Advertiser-Courier
- [Head of Missouri consumer office sacked](#) - St. Louis Post-Dispatch
- [Missouri governor signs right to work law](#) - The Hill

MEET YOUR LEGISLATOR

Senator
Ed Emery
R - District 56



Elected to Senate:
2012

Committees:
Utilities, Financial Institutions,
Rules— Legislative Oversight

Lives In: Lamar

Lives In: Lamar, Butler, and
Harrisonville

Tidbit: Prior to his retirement,
Senator Emery worked for decades
in the oil and gas industry. He
served in the Missouri House 2003-
2010

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

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

Adds public utility vehicles to the list of vehicles covered under the "Move Over Law".

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

Increases buyer influence in the sale of municipal utilities

[HB 340](#) [Fitzwater, Travis\(R\)](#)

Changes provisions of law related to net metering. **NOTE:** Hearing 5pm 2/8 in HR5.

[SB 184](#) [Emery, Ed\(R\)](#)

Allows water and sewer corporations to request a revenue stabilization mechanism (RSM) rate schedule authorizing periodic rate adjustments outside of a general rate proceeding. **NOTE:** Hearing 12pm 2/7 in Senate Lounge

[SB 242](#) [Emery, Ed\(R\)](#)

Establishes the Rate Case Modernization Act. **NOTE:** Hearing 12pm 2/7 in Senate Lounge

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](#)



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