

ALLIANCE INSIDE

Keeping you informed on municipal issues from inside the Capitol



Volume 6, Issue 6
February 13, 2017

BROADBAND PUBLIC HEARING SET FOR THURSDAY

This Tuesday at 10am, the [Senate Local Government Committee](#) will hold a hearing on limiting cities from expanding broadband for economic development and customer need ([SB 186](#)). The bill has a detrimental impact to municipal utilities seeking to lease fiber or provide retail service. MPUA opposes this legislation and talking points can be found [here](#). To share your opposition, please email the sponsor, [Senator Ed Emery](#), at ed.emery@senate.mo.gov, and also ask the Chairman, [Sen. Dan Hegeman](#), at dan.hegeman@senate.mo.gov to share your opinions with the committee (please also cc: elawson@mpua.org). If your Senator is on the committee, please email him to say that municipal utility services, including future broadband capabilities, are critical drivers for creating and retaining jobs and that adding barriers to deployment in rural areas stifles small businesses.

NOTE: Legislative Committee will meet at 1:30pm – same location – because of the 10am hearing.

Last week the [House Utilities Committee](#) heard a bill on net metering that exempts small municipal and cooperative utilities from state mandates ([HB 340](#)). It

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. MPUA supports this legislation. With a packed hearing, presentations ran long and testimony was not complete before adjournment. The hearing will be continued on Wednesday at 5pm. To share your opinions, please email the Chair, [Rep. Rocky Miller](#) at rocky.miller@house.mo.gov and the sponsor, [Rep. Fitzwater](#) at travis.fitzwater@house.mo.gov (please also cc: elawson@mpua.org).

[HB 247](#), increasing private buyer influence in the sale of public water and sewer utilities, has been sent to the Rules Committee. This bill affects [fourth class cities](#) and lowers the election threshold from 2/3 to a majority vote to sell into private ownership. MPUA opposes the bill as local ratepayers lose self determination in utility matters and the chance for public discourse is lowered. To share your opposition, email your [state representative](#) and the sponsor, [Rep. Alferman](#), at Justin.Alferman@house.mo.gov (please also cc: elawson@mpua.org).

IN THE NEWS THIS WEEK . . .

[Companies, Associations Call On MO Committee To Kill SB 186](#) - Community Networks
[Ameren MO advocates for legislation for \\$1B grid modernization plan](#) - Daily Energy Insider
[Lawmakers put prevailing wage in crosshairs; laborers object](#) - Southeast Missourian
[Natural gas utility overhaul would either be improvement or 'nightmare'](#) - Springfield News-Leaders
[Ohio Enacts Small Cell Deployment Measures: Limits Local Governments](#) - JDSupra

MEET YOUR LEGISLATOR

Representative
Travis Fitzwater
R - District 49



Elected to House:
2014

Committees:

Economic Development; Vice-Chair, Workforce Development; Rules-Legislative Oversight

Lives In: Holt's Summit

MPUA Cities: Fulton and Holts Summit

Tidbit: Representative Fitzwater previously worked as Chief Operating Office for the Missouri Pharmacy Association.

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

[HB 196](#)

[Remole, Tim\(R\)](#)

Allows customers of utilities to opt out of installation of certain types of meters.

[HB 247](#)

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

Increases buyer influence in the sale of municipal utilities. NOTE: See above to email your opposition.

[HB 340](#)

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

Changes provisions of law related to net metering. **NOTE:** Hearing 5pm 2/8 in HR5. NOTE: hearing 2/15 at 5pm in Hearing Room 5

[SB 186](#)

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

Modifies the authority of local governments to offer certain communications services. **NOTE:** Hearing 2/14 at 10am in the Senate Lounge.

[SB 354 & HB 656](#)

[Rowden & Rhoads](#)

Modifies provisions of wireless communications infrastructure and Uniform Wireless Communications Infrastructure Deployment Act. **NOTE:** Changes Pole Attachment agreements on wireless “small cell” attachments..

LINKS

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

MPUA CALENDAR

Feb. 14 | 1:30 pm
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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