

# ALLIANCE INSIDE

Keeping you informed on municipal issues from inside the Capitol

 An MPUA Publication



Volume 7, Issue 1  
January 17, 2018

## LAWMAKERS SET AGENDAS, BEGIN WORK

Leadership in both the House and Senate have set forth their agendas with ethics reform, tax reform, tort reform, and prevailing wage repeal. The first two weeks saw swift action by the House with ethics law debates. Another looming issue is with the federal tax bill changes, Missouri's state taxes will be impacted as some of the state laws proportionately mirror the federal deductions.

In utility matters, a bill on how customers are notified on meter replacement, [HB 1495](#), was heard in the House Utilities Committee. The bill only

impacts utilities regulated by the PSC.

Also, legislation changing the appeal process for PSC rules and orders was heard in the same committee. Municipal utilities are not substantively impacted by either bill. The Senate's [Committee on Commerce, Consumer Protection, Energy and the Environment](#) conducted a three-hour hearing on the IOU's rewrite of the rate making process before the PSC. This issue has been around for several years and is always opposed by Ameren's large industrial customers.

Next week, we expect a hearing on the Coal Combustion Residuals bill in the House ([HB 2041](#)).

In his Jan. 11 [State of the State address](#), Governor Eric Greitens' outlined a 2018 agenda to cut regulation, decrease the size of the government, create jobs and cut taxes. The Governor described reduced water permitting backlogs at the Missouri Department of Natural Resources as a prime example of how his administration is acting to provide improved services while also cutting government costs.

## IN THE NEWS THIS WEEK . . .

[Emery's utility bill passes committee with 9-1 vote](#) - Missouri Times  
[Contentious 2017 utility bill is back in Missouri Legislature](#) - Missouri.net  
[New state position created to coordinate broadband efforts, Greitens announces](#) - Columbia Missourian  
[Tax cut prompts PSC to look at electric, gas rates](#) - Columbia Daily Tribune  
[Lobbyist gift restriction launched from Missouri House to Senate](#) - St. Louis Post-Dispatch

## MEET YOUR LEGISLATOR

**Representative**  
**Travis Fitzwater**  
R - District 49



**Elected to House:**  
2014

**Committees:**  
Vice-Chair, Workforce Development; Economic Development; Rules—Legislative Oversight; Special Committee on Innovation & Technology.

**Lives in:** Holts Summit

**MPUA Cities:** Fulton

**Tidbit:** Rep. Fitzwater has worked in non-profit management as a marketing coordinator and chief operating officer.

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

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

[HB 1947](#) , [HB 1948](#) & [SB 658](#) Reps [Alferman](#) & [Rhoads](#),; Sen. [Hegeman](#)

HB 1947 - Changes the law regarding sale of water or wastewater systems in fourth class cities.

HB 1948 - Chgs uniform wireless comm infrastructure deployment act

SB 658 - Modifies provisions relating to municipally owned utilities

[HB 1877](#) [Miller, Rocky\(R\)](#)

Establishes Rate Case Modernization Act on rate making for gas corporations.

[HB 1991](#) & [SB 837](#) Rep. [Rhoads](#) & Sen. [Rowden](#)

HB 1991 - Modifies provisions relating to wireless facilities and related infrastructure.

SB 837 - Establishes the Uniform Small Wireless Facility Deployment Act

[HB 2041](#) [Fitzwater-49, Travis\(R\)](#)

Allows the Department of Natural Resources to promulgate rules for the management and closure of coal combustion residual surface impoundments and landfills.

[SB 815](#) & [SB 816](#) [Schatz, Dave\(R\)](#)

Modifies the civil penalty for violating federally mandated natural gas safety standards

## LINKS

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

## MPUA CALENDAR

[Full Calendar](#)

**February 13 | 10 am**  
MAMU Legislative  
Committee Mtg  
**Gov. Office Bldg 315**

**February 26—28**  
APPA Legislative Rally  
**Washington, DC**

**March 8 | 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 2018**  
**March 14— Marshall**  
**March 15 - Lebanon**



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