

ALLIANCE INSIDE

Keeping you informed on municipal issues from inside the Capitol

 An MPUA Publication



Volume 9, Issue 1
January 10, 2020

LINKS

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

MPUA CALENDAR

[Full Calendar](#)

Jan. 14 | 10am
MAMU Legislative
Committee mtg
Gov. Office Bldg 315

Jan. 15 | 10am
Municipal Gas
Commission (MGCM)
mtg (Columbia)

Jan. 22 | 1pm
MoPEP Committee mtg
(Columbia)

Jan. 24 | 10:30am
South Central Mo. Utility
Roundtable (Cabool)

Jan. 29 | 10am
Lineworker Advisory/
Mutual Aid mtg
(Columbia)

Feb. 7 | 10:30am
Northeast Regional
Utility Roundtable
(Macon)

TRAINING

Energy Efficiency
Certification for Homes
March 6 - Columbia

Spring Tech 2020
March 18 - Rolla
March 19 - Marshall

2020 SESSION LEAVES THE STARTING GATE

MPUA has hit the ground running with Wednesday's start to the 2020 Missouri legislative session. While utility matters were not directly mentioned within the top priorities of the session, it is shaping up to be an active year of advocacy in Jefferson City for MPUA, with hearings scheduled early next week on Representative Hansen's [HB 2033](#), Senator Brown's [SB 597](#), and Senator O'Laughlin's [SB 604](#). All three bills restrict the use of eminent domain for the purpose of constructing merchant lines. The proposed legislation will have a direct negative impact on the Grain Belt Express. Hearings are set for Monday, Jan. 13 at noon in the House and Wednesday, Jan. 15 at noon in the Senate. Member cities and MPUA will provide testimony in opposition to the proposed legislation during the scheduled hearings.

Other Senate bills that are set to be heard next Wednesday are [SJR 34](#)

filed by Senator Libla, proposing that the General Assembly pass legislation to establish an open, competitive retail electric energy market, and [SB 526](#) filed by Senator Emery, proposing to repeal the sunset date for the Uniform Small Wireless Facility Deployment Act.

Senator Crawford completed her first read this past Wednesday on [SB 817](#). This proposed bill modifies provisions relating to rural electric cooperatives. MPUA opposes SB 817 because of its impact on municipal electric utilities. The proposed legislation allows third- or fourth-class cities to sell their municipal electric utility to a rural electric cooperative. The bill would also establish that it constitutes a restraint of trade under Missouri Antitrust Law for a municipality to require, as a condition of annexation or provision of other municipal services in the area to be annexed, that the owner must obtain electric service from the elec-

tric provider currently providing electric in the municipality's corporate boundaries. Electric service to new structures within city limits in excess of 1,500 inhabitants can request permanent service from rural electric cooperatives if the co-op provided service to the demolished previous structure.

Representative Griesheimer read [HB 1970](#), modifying provisions for underground facility notification, for a second time this past Thursday. This proposed bill sets new standards and fees for failing to mark underground facilities accurately.

2020 promises to be a busy year for the MPUA Legislative Committee. The first meeting of the committee is at 10:00 a.m., Jan. 14, at room 315 of the Governor Office Bldg in Jefferson City (200 Madison St). Please contact Ewell Lawson or Lacey Hirschvogel with any questions.

IN THE NEWS THIS WEEK . . .

Redistricting, violence top agenda for Missouri lawmakers, [Associated Press, Jan. 8](#)
Mo. Legislature Convenes with redistricting and crime prevention on agenda, [St. Louis Public Radio, Jan. 8](#)
Farm Bureau seeks remedies to Grain Belt decision, [Brownfield Ag News, Jan 3](#)

MEET YOUR LEGISLATOR

Representative
Rob Vescovo



R - District 112

Republican Majority
Floor Leader

Elected to House: 2014

Committees: Ex-Officio member of all House committees

Lives in: unincorporated Jefferson County, near Arnold

Tidbit: Rep. Vescovo is self employed in business development.

[Legislator's web page](#)

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

[HB 2033](#)
[SB 597](#) / [SB 604](#)

House: [Hansen, Jim](#)
Senate: [Brown, Justin](#) / [O'Laughlin, Cindy](#)

Modifies provisions for eminent domain for utility purposes.
[NOTE: House bill - Mon. hearing; Both Senate bills - Wed. hearings]

[SB 817](#) [Crawford, Sandy](#)

Modifies provisions relating to rural electric cooperatives.

[SJR 34](#) [Libla, Doug](#)

Requires the General Assembly to pass legislation to establish an open, competitive retail electric energy market
[NOTE: Wednesday hearing]

[HB 1970](#) [Griesheimer, Aaron](#)

Modifies provisions for underground facility notification

[SB 526](#) [Emery, Ed](#)

Modifies provisions relating to video service providers
[NOTE: Wednesday hearing]



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