

ALLIANCE INSIDE

Keeping you informed on municipal issues from inside the Capitol

 An MPUA Publication



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WIRELESS CELL ANTENNA LEGISLATION TO BE HEARD WEDNESDAY

Legislation to set rules governing contracts on the placement of wireless cell antennas on municipal infrastructure, including electric poles, will be heard on Wednesday at 5 p.m. in the House Utilities Committee.

[HB 1991](#), introduced by [Rep. Shawn Rhoades \(R-West Plains\)](#), sets up a regulatory framework designed to limit public management of publicly-owned property and infrastructure, including utility thoroughfare set-asides on privately-owned property, so that greater access is afforded to telecommunication providers. The bill severely limits municipal utilities from making decisions to protect public safety, employee safety, and system reliability. Some provisions go as

far as to shift access costs associated with “make-ready” work and liability to the pole owner, rather than the attaching entity. In addition, the bill creates inequities among electric utility providers, as some provisions would only apply to municipal electric systems, but not cooperatives and investor owned utilities. MPUA will seek options to improve the legislation, if not to exempt electric poles from its provisions, as many state legislatures have recently done.

[HB 2041](#) will also be heard in the House Utilities Committee during the Wednesday hearing. The bill, introduced by [Rep. Travis Fitzwater \(R-Fulton\)](#), seeks to authorize DNR to create a program to assist utilities with coal generation to

manage and close coal combustion residual surface impoundments. MPUA supports this effort, as the State seeks to take regulatory primacy from EPA and establish a state-specific permit program to aid local utilities in the process.

Last week, the Senate Commerce committee moved legislation ([SB 564](#)) to the Senate floor that changes how the PSC regulates investor owned utilities. The House Utilities Committee cancelled its meetings last week.

In general floor actions of note, the House passed legislation to the Senate with an overwhelming vote that would limit gifts from lobbyists. The legislation ([HB 1303](#)) will have a tougher time in the Senate.

IN THE NEWS THIS WEEK . . .

[Bill would double width of utility corridors](#) - Jefferson City News-Tribune
[Sprawling backlog of DNR permits is winnowing - maybe too quickly, some worry](#) - StL Post-Dispatch
[Supreme Court says WOTUS challenges must go through district courts](#) - Public Power Daily
[Missouri House passes limits on lobbyist gifts to officials](#) - Associated Press
[Trump issues 30% tariff on solar panel imports](#) - Utility Dive

MEET YOUR LEGISLATOR

Representative
Shawn Rhoads
R - District 154



Elected to House:
2012

Committees:

Chair: Rules—Legislative Oversight; Crime Prevention & Public Safety; Government Efficiency; Special Committee on Urban Issues; Ways and Means.

Lives in: West Plains

MPUA Cities: West Plains, Willow Springs

Tidbit: Rep. Rhoads was a detective with the West Plains Police Department.

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

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

[HB 1621](#) [Rehder, Holly\(R\)](#)

Repeals provisions on prevailing wages on public works.

[HB 1872](#) [Johnson, Delus\(R\)](#)

Establishes the Missouri Rural Broadband Development Fund.

[HB 1991](#) [Rhoads, Shawn\(R\)](#)

Modifies provisions relating to wireless facilities and related infrastructure.

[HB 1998](#) [Bondon, Jack\(R\)](#)

Changes the law regarding the Public Service Commission.

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

Allows DNR to promulgate rules for mgmt & closure of coal combustion residual surface impoundments & landfills.

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



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