

ALLIANCE INSIDE

Keeping you informed on municipal issues from inside the Capitol

 An MPUA Publication



MPUA BACKS TWO SALE TRANSPARENCY BILLS FILED

Two MPUA-supported bills have been filed, one House and one Senate, impacting city-owned water, wastewater, and natural gas systems in fourth class cities. The near identical bills from opposite chambers bring sale transparency to the voters as they consider selling their asset.

Rep. Francis (R-Perryville) has filed [HB 909](#). Senator Emery (R-Lamar) has similarly filed [SB 383](#). Both bills authorize an appraisal of the utility system asset for sale and an analysis of city impact to revenues and services, if a utility system is put up for sale. The information is made available for voter education. We expect a hearing in the coming weeks.

MPUA will monitor hearings this week on electric vehicle (EV) chargers ([HB 287](#)), PSC changes for IOUs ([HB 633](#), [SB 166](#)), municipal expenditures ([HB 762](#)), and natural gas safety standards ([SB 169](#)).

Last week, Senator White (R-Joplin) held a stakeholder meeting to discuss [SB 66](#) (Asset Management Plans). MPUA staff shared our concerns that this was an unfunded mandate and generally unnecessary. However, at White's request, we did provide redlined language. We recommended codifying last year's federally-passed Water Resources Development Act of 2018 that encourages rather than mandates asset management planning. The City of Kansas City Water Department and Missouri Rural Water Association are joining us in providing a unified front against this mandate.

Also last week, the Senate Commerce committee heard [SB 278](#) (Wallingford, Cape Girardeau). The bill requires public water systems and public water supply districts that modify water supply fluoridation to seek and receive information about the impact from the local

health department. We will continue to monitor this bill. Also, during budget hearings ([HB 6](#) – Smith), DNR reiterated the Governor's recommendation of \$13.75M, an increase of \$10M, for water infrastructure development through the Multipurpose Water Resource Development Fund. DNR testified with assurances that these monies will amply support the various water commission needs statewide and each, with demonstrated need, will have equal fund access.

Next week, MPUA members and staff will be in Washington, DC meeting with Missouri's Congressional delegation. The group will be educating them on our positions related to municipal bonds, cybersecurity, LIHEAP funds, GHG emissions, broadband, and pole attachments. If you are not planning to go, please consider contacting their offices locally. Talking points can be found [here](#).

IN THE NEWS THIS WEEK . . .

- [Ameren Missouri undertakes major upgrades expected to create thousands of jobs](#) - Missouri.net, Feb. 18
- [Residents to attend DNR coal ash hearing](#) - Washington Missourian, Feb. 16
- [Lawmakers consider lower water, sewer bills for low-income residents](#) - Columbia Missourian, Feb. 14
- [Parson, Schatz stress infrastructure at annual MML conference](#) - Missouri Times, Feb. 13
- [Monett signs new power contracts](#) - Monett Times, Feb. 13

MEET YOUR LEGISLATOR

Rep. Rick Francis

R - District 145

Elected to House:
2016

Committees:
Vice-Chair —
Agriculture Policy;
Financial Institutions;
Utilities

Lives in: Perryville

MPUA Cities: Fredericktown, Perryville

Tidbit: In addition to his legislative duties, Rep. Francis is a farmer. He previously spent 33 years in education as a teacher & coach, and served as a Middle School Principal & Assistant Superintendent for Perry County School District #32.



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

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

[HB 287](#)

[Kidd, Bill\(R\)](#)

Modifies the definition of "public utility"

NOTE: EV charging. Hearing Tuesday.

[HB 762](#)

[Wiemann, John\(R\)](#)

Establishes MO Municipality Govt. Expenditure Database

NOTE: Hearing Tuesday.

[HB 909](#)

House: [Francis, Rick\(R\)](#)

[SB 383](#)

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

HB: Modifies provisions for the sale of municipally owned utilities.
SB: Modifies provisions relating to the sale of utilities in fourth class cities. **NOTE: both are MAMU requested bills – support.**

[SB 273](#)

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

Modifies provisions relating to video service providers

NOTE: Hearing Wednesday; similar to HB 759.

[SB 169](#)

[Wallingford, Wayne\(R\)](#)

Modifies the civil penalty for violating federally mandated natural gas safety standards. **NOTE: Hearing Wednesday.**

Volume 8, Issue 5
February 19, 2019

LINKS

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

MPUA CALENDAR

[Full Calendar](#)

Feb. 21 | 10am
MoPEP Services &
Rates Committee Mtg
Columbia, Mo.

Feb. 25-27
APPA Legislative Rally
Washington, DC

Feb. 27 | 10am
Lineworker & Mutual
Aid Committee Mtg
Columbia, Mo.

March 7 | 9am
MPUA Board Meetings
Drury Plaza Hotel
Columbia East

TRAINING

Feb. 20 | 10:00 am
Work in Water Training,
Columbia, Mo.

Spring Tech 2019
March 13 - Waynesville
March 14 - Hannibal



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