

ALLIANCE INSIDE

Keeping you informed on municipal issues from inside the Capitol

 An MPUA Publication



SEVERAL MEASURES HEARD AND DEBATED AT CAPITOL

On Feb. 19, the Senate's Local Government committee conducted a hearing on [SB 725](#), which would allow county residents served by a board of public works to be appointed to such boards. MAMU raised concerns with the original language and worked with the sponsor to make clarifications. The bill now only applies the following to boards: the board must not have authority to set rates or issue bonds, the person must own property within five miles of the city, the person must own property or a business in the city, the person or their business must be a customer of the public utility that is owned or operated by the city, and the person can have no interest in any other utility. This bill was unanimously voted out of committee Feb. 27.

[SB 715](#) was heard in the Commerce Committee on Feb. 19. We are concerned that the bill as filed will take away the State's ability to

maintain delegated authority and primacy over environmental programs. MAMU shared our concerns with the sponsor and is working with him on alternative language. No additional action was taken this past week.

[SB 825](#) was also heard in the Commerce Committee Feb. 19. Under this act, no electrical corporation shall charge customers or use customer funds to subsidize or pay for any portion of any electric vehicle charging station. MAMU worked with Senator Libla to exempt municipal systems from the proposed legislation.

The Missouri Senate spent 20 hours in debate last week hearing [SB 575](#), establishing procedures for a claimant in a civil action for damages due to asbestos exposure. After a compromise to table SB 575, the Senate passed [SB 591](#), modifying provisions relating to civil actions, including unlawful merchandising

practices and punitive damages. Senate Republicans have now passed two priorities, Cleaner MO and tort reform.

Budget: the House appropriation subcommittees finalized suggested changes to the Governor's budget recommendations this week. Budget Chairman Rep. Cody Smith has indicated he will need to cut a substantial amount from the budget recommendations, but has not given a final number.

Utilities: MAMU testified in support of two bills in House Utilities. [HB 2182](#) repeals the sunset clause on the Uniform Small Wireless Facility Deployment Act. MAMU was successful in exempting our utility poles and infrastructure from that bill and they have remained exempted in the proposed bill. The second was [HB 2050](#), requiring the comprehensive state energy plan to be reviewed by the Division of Energy by Jan. 1, 2022.

IN THE NEWS THIS WEEK . . .

Environmental regulation: Where we stand and what's to come, [APPA Public Power Daily, Feb. 28](#)

Grain Belt Debate: Clean Energy, Job Creation vs. Property Rights, [Public News Service, Feb. 26](#)

City Utilities building \$120 million network to bring 'true' broadband to Springfield, [News-Leader, Feb. 24](#)

Senator: Public shouldn't pay for electric car charging stations, [Columbia Missourian, Feb. 19](#)

Invenery sweetens their offer for Grain Belt Express, [Rolla Daily News, Feb. 17](#)

MEET YOUR LEGISLATOR

[Representative Travis Fitzwater](#)

R- District 049

Elected to House: 2014

Committees:

Chair - Utilities; Ethics; General Laws; Rules - Legislative Oversight; Blue Ribbon Panel on the Missouri Hyperloop

Lives in: Holts Summit

MPUA Cities: Fulton, Holts Summit

Tidbit: Rep. Fitzwater has worked in non-profit management as a marketing coordinator and chief operating officer. He has also worked on staff with a campus ministry.



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

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

[HB 1602](#) / [SB 725](#)

House: [Mayhew, Don](#)
Senate: [Brown, Justin](#)

Modifies appointment qualifications for members of boards of public works in certain cities. **NOTE: added to consent calendar, includes MPUA changes**

HB's [2028](#), [2425](#), & [2467](#) and [SB 817](#)

House: [Morse, Herman](#); [Rone, Don](#); [Bromley, Bob](#)
Senate: [Crawford, Sandy](#)

All relate to territorial agreements brought up by coops
NOTE: may come up March 10 or 17

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

House: [Hansen, Jim](#)
Senate: [Brown, Justin](#)

Modifies provisions for eminent domain for utility purposes.

[HB 2182](#)

[Miller, Rocky](#)

Repeals the sunset clause on the Uniform Small Wireless Facility Deployment Act.

[HB 2620](#)

[Hansen, Jim](#)

Authorizes public service commission to review electric rates of municipalities under certain circumstances
NOTE: Hearing threatened - puts munis under PSC

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LINKS

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

MPUA CALENDAR

[Full Calendar](#)

March 4 | 10am
Member Services
Committee mtg
Columbia, MO

March 4 | 1pm
Joint Operating & Exec
Committees mtg
Columbia, MO

March 5 | 9am
MPUA Board Meetings
*Drury Plaza Hotel
Columbia East*

April 219-23
APPA E&O Conference
Kansas City, MO

TRAINING

Energy Efficiency
Certification for Homes
March 6 - Columbia

March 10-11
Supervisory Leadership
Certification Course
*Drury Plaza Hotel
Columbia East*

Spring Tech 2020
*March 18 - Rolla
March 19 - Marshall*



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