

ALLIANCE INSIDE

Keeping you informed on municipal issues from inside the Capitol

 An MPUA Publication



LEGISLATORS PUSH TOWARD FINISH LINE

The “license plate bill,” ([HB 926](#)) was truly agreed to and finally passed last week. The bill allows any Missouri resident to pay a twenty-five dollar fee and receive license plates with the official utility worker emblem of the Missouri Association of Municipal Utilities. The fees collected from the license plate will be used for training purposes. The bill now awaits Governor Parson’s signature.

Negotiations with the investor owned utilities continued to find common ground on language for [SB 383](#), the appraisal and education before the sale of a water, wastewater, or gas plant bill. Missouri American continues to believe that our language is nothing but a barrier to sell. However, Senator Emery agrees that transparency during elections is important

and wants to continue to offer language to create an appraisal and education process for cities wanting to sell their utility. This bill has been heard in Senate Commerce and the House Utilities Committees.

The Missouri Senate passed their version of the state’s 30-billion-dollar budget last week. The budget will now be decided by a conference committee. Revenue collections have been off because of a failure of Missouri to adjust its tax tables after the federal tax cut last year. Revenue collections since April 15 have eliminated the debt and even created a surplus. The budget must be complete by May 10th.

MPUA continues to meet with legislators regarding the Grain Belt

Express project. There will be a hearing regarding [HB 1062](#) in the Senate Commerce Committee. We greatly benefit from member attendance and participation during committee hearings. We have been talking with the members of the committee regarding the facts of the project and correcting the misconceptions and mischaracterization of the project that we heard in the House. The Grain Belt Express project is our number one priority legislation this year. The last day of session is May 17.

[The final MAMU Legislative Committee meeting of this legislative session will meet Tuesday, May 7 at 10 a.m. All MAMU board members are welcome to join by phone, or at 316 Governor Office Bldg in Jefferson City (200 Madison St).]

IN THE NEWS THIS WEEK . . .

RMU seeks opposition to House Bill 1062, [Rolla Daily News, April 24](#)

MMU seeks city council support to show opposition to House Bill 1062, [Marshall Democrat-News, April 22](#)

Grain Belt-related legislation heads to Missouri Senate, [Missourinet, April 19](#)

Commentary: Is Missouri closed to economic investment, progress?, [St. Louis Business Journal, April 18](#)

Attempt by state politicians to thwart Kirkwood wind power, [Webster-Kirkwood Times, April 19](#)

MEET YOUR LEGISLATOR

Representative

[Tracy McCreery](#)

D - District 88

Elected to House:

2011

Committees:

Utilities, Ranking Minority Member; Conservation & Natural Resources, Ranking Minority Member; Agriculture Policy, Ranking Minority Member; General Laws

Lives in:

Olivette

Tidbit:

Rep. McCreery previously served in the administration of Gov. Holden, and is a founding member of the St. Louis Rescue & Restore Coalition and Consumers Council of Missouri.



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

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

[HB 6](#)

[Smith, Cody\(R\)](#)

Appropriates money for the expenses, grants, refunds, and distributions of the Department of Agriculture, Department of Natural Resources, and Department of Conservation.

[NOTE: includes monies from both chambers for Water Stabilization Fund for water commissions]

[HB 160](#)

[Knight, Jeff\(R\)](#)

Allows Public Service Commission to authorize a low income rate for water and sewer service.

[NOTE: amended to include "scaled-back" SB 66]

[HB 1062](#)

[Hansen, Jim\(R\)](#)

Modifies provisions for eminent domain for utility purposes.

[NOTE: Senate hearing Wednesday]

[SB 383](#)

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

Modifies provisions on sale of utilities in 4th class cities.

[SB 296](#) / [HB 287](#)

Senate: [Cierpiot, Mike\(R\)](#)

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

Modifies provisions on electric vehicle charging stations.

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LINKS

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

MPUA CALENDAR

[Full Calendar](#)

May 7 | 10am
MAMU Legislative
Committee Mtg
Gov. Office Bldg. 316
Jefferson City, MO

May 5-11
Safe Drinking
Water Week

May 19-25
National Public
Works Week

May 27
MPUA office closed
(Memorial Day)

TRAINING

May 29 & 30
Substation Training
(Chillicothe)

May 30
Digital Media
Workshop
(Columbia)



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