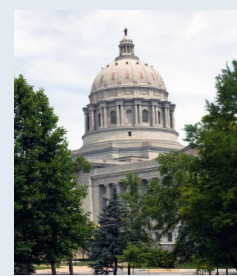


ALLIANCE INSIDE

Keeping you informed on municipal issues from inside the Capitol



A Publication from the Missouri Public Utility Alliance



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January 13, 2012

Second Regular Session Convenes

Lawmakers convened last week for the start of the 96th General Assembly, Second Regular Session. Senator Rob Mayer, Missouri Senate President Pro Tem, said the Missouri Senate would focus on passing a balanced budget without raising taxes; promoting economic development and commerce and reforming Missouri's Workers' Compensation law; and revising the state's school foundation formula. The Senate will also take

a look at Missouri's prevailing wage law. Senator Mayer is the sponsor of **SB 439** which would suspend the prevailing wage laws in areas declared by the Governor to be natural disasters for 5 years following such a declaration. Hearings could begin on prevailing wage as early as next week.

Speaker of the House Steven Tilley spoke of economic development as being the key to this legislative

session. The Speaker told Missouri representatives: "We will force government to live within its means, balance the state budget, and hold the line on taxes, period." Workforce discrimination, co-employee liability and fixing the second injury fund were also areas he would like to see addressed.

Governor Jay Nixon will give his "State of the State" speech on Tuesday, January 17 at 7:00 p.m.

Links:

[Find Your Legislator](#)

[Legislative Session Dates](#)

[MPUA Website](#)

Calendar:

2012 Legislative Committee Meetings

Feb 14

Mar 6

April 10

May 8

10:00 am - Room 315
Governor Office Bldg
Jefferson City

Missouri One Call
Legislative Reception
Jan. 18 4:30 - 7:30
See attached invitation

Other MPUA Meetings

March 7:

Member Services
Committee Mtg.
10:00 am at MPUA

March 7:

JOC/Executive Committees
Mtg. 1:00 pm at MPUA

March 8:

Board of Directors Meeting
for MAMU, MGCM,
MJMEUC 9:00 am at Days
Inn, Columbia

March 12-14:

APPA Legislative Rally
Washington DC



MPUA

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In the News This Week . . .

Senator McCaskill touts 'responsible energy' during visit to Springfield: KY3-TV

Missouri high court considers redistricting challenges: Southeast Missourian

Lawmakers begin work on state's economic agenda: Springfield News Leader

Nixon promotes jobs package, promises details later: Kansas City Star

McCaskill says utility customers should help pay for energy projects: St. Louis Beacon

Mayer to Nixon: cuts, no taxes, no contingencies in State of State: Missouri.net

McCaskill returns to region with Ralls County Electric Coop visit: Hannibal Courier Post

Chamber Wars: Mo. Senate strikes back at the House: Missouri News Horizon

Meet Your Legislator

State Sen. Kurt
Schaeffer-R
19th Senate District



Elected to Senate: 2008

Committees: Appropriations,
Chair: Commerce and Energy

Lives in: Columbia, MO

MPUA Members: Columbia,
Centralia, Moberly

Tidbit: As the former General Counsel and Deputy Director at DNR, he was responsible for all legal aspects of the State's Environmental Regulatory and Enforcement Agency, which also owns and manages the State's 83 state parks and historic sites.

Bill Bytes

A quick look at bills being tracked by MPUA

*Find the complete Bill Report online
by clicking [here](#).*

HB 1143 **Gatschenberger** Authorizes any municipality to impose, with voter approval, a fee for repair or replacement of lateral sewer service lines due to failure.

HB 1251 **Ruzicka** Extends the year to 2017, from 2012, in which DNR may impose fees for the enforcement of the federal Safe Drinking Water Act.

SB 439 **Mayer** Suspends prevailing wage laws in areas declared by the Governor to be natural disasters for 5 years following such a declaration.

SB 469 **Dixon** Requires sunset of all administrative rules based on time of promulgation, and allows re-promulgation of a rule set to sunset.