

HB 824 -- WATER SERVICE TERMINATION

SPONSOR: Korman

COMMITTEE ACTIONS: Voted "Do Pass" by the Committee on Utilities Infrastructure by a vote of 14 to 0. Voted "Do Pass" by the Select Standing Committee on Utilities by a vote of 9 to 1.

Currently, various sewer service providers may contract with water corporations under Section 393.015, RSMo, to halt water service in cases of nonpayment of a sewer bill. This bill allows the sewer service providers to contract with municipal water services and water districts established under Chapter 247 for the same purpose.

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that the bill will clarify that sewer providers may contract with all types of water services to enforce a shut off of sewer service for nonpayment of bills. This will help to ensure that sewer districts are financially solvent, help sewer districts replace degraded infrastructure and maintain adequate service, and will prevent the need to manually dig up sewer lines and halt service which is not cost effective or beneficial for the public welfare.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Korman; Jim Busch and Robert Boone, Public Service Commission; Harry G. Hill; and Missouri American Water.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.